JPRS 78401

29 June 1981

USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1599

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semimonthly by the NTIS, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Indexes to this report (by keyword, author, personal names, title and series) are available through Bell & Howell, Old Mansfield Road, Wooster, Ohio, 44691.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

Soviet books and journal articles displaying a copyright notice are reproduced and sold by NTIS with permission of the copyright agency of the Soviet Union. Permission for further reproduction must be obtained from copyright owner.

JPRS 78401

29 June 1981

USSR REPORT

MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1599

CONTENTS

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

Historical Development of Soviet Military Organization
(A. A. Belyayev; NAUCHNYY KOMMUNIZM, No 1, 1981)..... 1

ARMED FORCES

Economy Measures Used in Armed Forces Discussed
(V. N. Dutov; SOVETSKIY VOIN, Mar 81)..... 10

Veterans' Benefits Discussed
(A. Luk'yanenko; PRAVDA UKRAINY, 8 May 81)..... 16

GROUND FORCES

Airborne Troops Night Reconnaissance Training
(V. Sosnitskiy; SOVETSKIY VOIN, Mar 81)..... 20

Bridging Exercise Described
(V. Voloshin, V. Gribov; SOVETSKIY VOIN, Mar 81)..... 23

T-72 Tank Described
(V. Knyaz'kov; ZNAMENOSETS, May 81)..... 29

AIR DEFENSE FORCES

Radar Training Discussed
(A. Kalinin; SOVETSKIY VOIN, Mar 81)..... 33

PERCEPTIONS, VIEWS, COMMENTS

Views of U.S. Policy in Persian Gulf
(Yu. Sedov; SOVETSKIY VOIN, Apr 81)..... 36

Views of U.S. Military Training
(V. Zabrodin; SOVETSKIY VOIN, Apr 81)..... 41

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET MILITARY ORGANIZATION

Moscow NAUCHNYY KOMMUNIZM in Russian No 1, 1981 (signed to press 13 Jan 81) pp 35-42

[Article by Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Professor A. A. Belyayev: "V. I. Lenin: A New Type of Military Theoretician and Strategist"]

[Text] On 22 April 1980 the Soviet people, peoples of the countries of the socialist commonwealth, the international working class, all progressive mankind marked the occasion of the 110th anniversary of the birth of the great Lenin with extensive festive celebration. "A brilliant theoretician," declares the CPSU Central Committee decree of 13 December 1979, "and the world proletariat's greatest strategist and tactician, Lenin mastered to perfection the art of leadership in both the revolutionary struggle and the building of communism" ("O 110-y godovshchine so dnya rozhdeniya V. I. Lenina: Postanovleniye TsK KPSS" [The 110th Anniversary of the Birth of V. I. Lenin: The Decree of the CPSU Central Committee], Moscow, 1980, p 4).

A profound scientific approach to the analysis of current events, sound evaluation of the relationship and configuration of class forces, consistency and steadfastness in defense of Marxist principles, purposefulness in action, faultless knowledge of the techniques, methods and forms of class and political-party struggle and a solid faith in the revolutionary forces of the working class and of all working people distinguish V. I. Lenin as a political figure of a new type. V. I. Lenin's entire political life constituted a brilliant embodiment of his powerful intellect, his enormous will and revolutionary passion and of his internationalism and implacable hatred of all exploiters and enemies of the revolution.

He lived, created and struggled in a new historical epoch, of which the working class was the primary political and social force. V. I. Lenin saw the creation of a new type of revolutionary party to be the decisive condition for success in the struggle of the working class for its liberation. The creation of the Bolshevik Party headed by V. I. Lenin marked the victory within the international workers' movement of a Marxist, truly revolutionary orientation. This constituted a new stage in the class struggle of the proletariat and of its political organization and "the application of revolutionary Marxism to the special conditions of the epoch..." (V. I. Lenin, "Poln. sobr. soch." [Complete Works], Vol 21, p 13).

V. I. Lenin's political activity and theoretical work were inextricably linked with his military activity. His is the great merit of having organized the military defense of the socialist fatherland, created the armed forces of the first socialist state in history and elaborated many problems of military theory. "Lenin was the greatest military leader in the history of the wars of the toiling masses for their liberation from oppressors," wrote M. I. Kalinin. "He began the building of a Soviet regular army

based upon the principles of modern science and technology.... Study of Lenin's work is a vital necessity for all of us, and this practice is being introduced on an increasingly widespread basis in the army for its command and political personnel to enable them to develop a better understanding of current events and continuously improve their knowledge of military affairs..." (M. I. Kalinin, "O kommunisticheskoy vospitanii i voinskom dolge" [Communist Indoctrination and Military Duty], Moscow, 1967, p 575).

V. I. Lenin personifies the new type of military leader, the commander leading the struggle of the working class and of the broad masses of working people for their social and national liberation. Lenin's teaching concerning the defense of the socialist fatherland organically absorbs the scientific conception of the army of a new type; it sheds light on the fundamental significance on the whole range of defensive measures taken by the socialist state and illustrates the regularity of the defensive nature of its military doctrine.

V. I. Lenin's work as a military leader was comprehensively and glowingly appraised at the 2nd Congress of Soviets of the USSR. "...Imbibing all that was best of the old culture," declares the Appeal of the 2nd Congress of Soviets of the USSR to toiling mankind, "having in his hands the magnificant instrument of Marxist theory, he, a stormy, tempestuous man, led the powerful, elemental masses, smashing all before them, into the granite shores of revolutionary expediency and wisdom. His ability to anticipate future developments was colossal. His ability to organize the masses was astounding. He was the greatest of the military leaders of all countries, of all time, of all peoples. He was the military leader of the new man liberating the world" ("S"yezdy Sovetov Vserossiyskiye i Soyuza SSR v postanovleniyakh i rezolyutsiyakh" [The All-Russian Congresses of Soviets and the Congresses of Soviets of the USSR in Decrees and Resolutions], Moscow, 1935, p 283).

Through application of the Marxist dialectical method, V. I. Lenin provided an objective analysis of the regularities of the present epoch and of the new historical conditions of the class struggle, defined the class and political nature of wars in the epoch of imperialism, developed the theory of the defense of the socialist fatherland and formulated the basic principles governing Soviet military development.

V. I. Lenin occupied himself with problems of military theory continuously and persistently at all stages of his work. He had a thorough knowledge of the works of K. Marx and F. Engels dealing with military problems and continually interested himself in the works of military figures both of the past and among his contemporaries. N. K. Krupskaya writes in her reminiscences: "Il'ich not only read, thoroughly studied and reflected on everything Marx and Engels had written on revolution and uprising, he also read no small number of books on the art of war, considering all aspects of the technique and organization of armed insurrection. He occupied himself with this subject much more than people realize..." (N. Krupskaya, "Vospominaniya o Lenine" [Reminiscences of Lenin], Partizdat, 1932, p 87).

V. I. Lenin believed that all party members and all conscious workers should continually add to their military knowledge and undertake a thorough study of military affairs so as to be able to defend the cause of the revolution. "Take military affairs, for example," he wrote. "No social democrat the least familiar with history or who has studied the works of Engels, the great authority in this field, has ever doubted the enormous importance of a knowledge of military affairs and of military weapons and equipment as an instrument employed by the popular masses and classes for the resolution of great historical conflicts" (Lenin, op. cit., Vol 10, p 340).

Evidence of V. I. Lenin's exceptionally great interest in military literature is the fact that his personal library in the Kremlin contained 20 books on the history of the First World War, 72 books on the history of the Civil War and 84 other works dealing with various problems in military affairs (see "O voyenno-teoreticheskom nasledii V. I. Lenina" [V. I. Lenin's Legacy of Military Theory], Moscow, 1964, p 22). Passages V. I. Lenin copied out of books on military subjects, including Napoleon's "Thoughts," have also been preserved. Vladimir Il'ich made a most thorough study of the three-volume "On War and the Waging of War" by K. Clausewitz, the well-known bourgeois military theorist. He followed closely the publication of military works by Soviet writers and active participants in the Civil War. His Kremlin library contained the works of M. V. Frunze, S. I. Gusev and M. N. Tukhachevskiy.

V. I. Lenin devoted a great deal of attention to a study of the class natures and basic types of wars in the new epoch. Being the most consistent humanists, he declared, communists have always condemned war as something barbaric. But determination of the proper tactics communists should adopt with respect to a specific war requires analysis of the social-political nature of that war and the aims each of the belligerents is pursuing. In his "Sotsializm i voyna" [Socialism and the War], "Voyennaya programma proletarskoy revolyutsii" [The Military Program of the Proletarian Revolution] and other works, V. I. Lenin set forth a clear-cut classification of the different types of wars and on this basis elaborated the principles governing the positions communists and the working class should take on different wars.

There are just and unjust wars, progressive and reactionary wars, wars which increase class oppression and wars which throw it off. Against unjust, aggressive, imperialist wars the working class and all progressive forces should carry on a resolute struggle using all possible means, up to and including revolution and the overthrow of imperialist governments. Just wars, on the other hand, wars having the aim of defending the socialist fatherland and the achievements of socialism, liberating working people from feudal and capitalistic oppression, releasing colonies and dependent countries from the yoke of imperialism and defending a people against national enslavement, communists, the working class and all progressive forces should support by all possible means. In wars between socialist and imperialist countries, in movements for national liberation or in wars in defense of national independence the slogan "defense of the fatherland" is both necessary and proper and is in full accord with the spirit of Marxism.

V. I. Lenin also provided an answer to the question of how the class nature of a given war should be determined: since war is a continuation by violent means of the prewar policies of the powers involved, the nature of the war--whether it is a just or an unjust war--depends upon which class is waging the war and what policy the given war is a continuation of.

In analyzing the causes of the first imperialist world war, V. I. Lenin advanced a number of most important theses on the issue of prospects for eliminating war from the life of society. Inherently characteristic of socialism as a social order is a striving for the elimination of war and for the establishment of a lasting peace on earth. "An end to war," V. I. Lenin wrote, "peace between peoples, a halt to plunder and violence--this is precisely our ideal..." (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 26, p 304.). He also emphasized that wars are inseparable concomitants of capitalism, especially of its imperialist stage, and pointed out "the impossibility of eliminating war without abolishing classes and creating socialism..." (Ibid., p 311). In advancing the thesis of the inevitability of war under imperialism, V. I. Lenin had two sets of circumstances in mind.

First, the fact that imperialism by its very nature is a source of war since it preserves the economic basis from which it arises. This thesis of V. I. Lenin's retains it validity under present-day conditions as well. As long as capitalism exists in the face of the earth, the imperialist bourgeoisie will attempt military adventures and aggression. Both historical experience and the present policy of the imperialist states are witness to this fact. "Militaristic and reactionary circles are intensifying their statements against detente," stresses the CPSU Central Committee decree "The 110-th Anniversary of the Birth of V. I. Lenin," "striving to alter the relationship of forces in their favor, intensifying the arms race and attempting to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries and suppress national liberation movements" (p 12). That is why all peaceloving forces must demonstrate the greatest vigilance against the aggressive plots of the imperialists.

Second, V. I. Lenin proceeded on the basis of the fact that at that time imperialism constituted a single universal system: it was not the working class, but the imperialist bourgeoisie that everywhere determined national policy and held undivided sway in the international arena; the peaceloving forces, on the other hand, were weak and could not prevent aggressive wars. But V. I. Lenin foresaw that the victory of the socialist revolution in a number of countries would alter the international situation and create conditions abolishing world war from the life of society.

That prediction has been borne out. After the formation of a world socialist system and the establishment of a group of peaceloving states, world war has ceased to be a fatal inevitability. Proceeding on the basis of the new historical conditions and creatively developing Marxist-Leninist doctrine, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has drawn the most important conclusion that even before the full victory of socialism throughout the entire world there exists a real possibility of abolishing war from the life of society and that world war can be prevented by the combined efforts of the socialist commonwealth, peaceloving nonsocialist states, the international working class, of all forces standing in defense of the cause of peace.

V. I. Lenin also defined the unique characteristics of the wars of the new epoch. He showed that in the epoch of imperialism the connection between war and a national economic structure, between a people and its army, had become more direct and all-encompassing. As early as 1905, in analyzing the Russo-Japanese War, he wrote that "the connection between a country's military organization and its entire economic system and culture has never yet been as close as at the present time" (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 9, p 156). He then develops the same idea in an analysis of the first world war: "In the present war...economic organization is of decisive importance" (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 34, p 1[illegible]). In speaking of the experience of the Civil War in his report to the 2d All-Russian Congress of Communist Organizations of the Peoples of the East, V. I. Lenin pointed out that war constitutes a test of all economic and organizational forces of each nation (see V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 39, p 321). V. I. Lenin attached great importance to all types of material supply to an army: materiel, provisions, the work of the rear as a whole. He wrote in his article "On a Businesslike Practical Basis": "The proper conduct of a war requires a well-organized rear. An enemy will immediately annihilate the best army, the people most devoted to the cause of the revolution, if they have not been properly armed, provisioned and trained" (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 35, p 408). V. I. Lenin understood the term "rear" to refer to the entire life of a country: the level of development of all sectors of its economy, its system of economic management, the functioning of its transportation and communications systems, the operation of the government apparatus and the organization, cohesion and discipline of its population and its attitude toward a war.

The popular masses have played an increasing role in war in the new epoch. The course and outcome of a war depend to an important degree upon the people's attitude toward

the war. "The times when wars were waged by mercenaries or representatives of a caste half alienated from the people have disappeared irreversibly into the past," V. I. Lenin wrote. "Wars are now waged by the peoples..." (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 9, p 154). The following example is enough to confirm this Leninist thesis. The coalitions of belligerent states mobilized 70 million men for the first world war, 110 million for the second. There are now 25 million men under arms throughout the world, and arms expenditures are running to 500 billion dollars a year. The fact that in a number of developed capitalist countries armies are manned by volunteers serving for large amounts in monetary compensation does not change the situation, since in case of war those armies would be increased in size through imposition of a universal military obligation. Lenin's theses that /"that class is historically the victor which can line up the bulk of the population behind it"/ [in boldface], that army will be the victor which has "greater reserves, more sources of manpower and the greater support among the popular masses" (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 39, pp 351, 237) remain timely for one day as well. The armies of the socialist countries are precisely this kind of army. These are truly popular armies, armies defending the vital interests of the entire people of each country.

V. I. Lenin also emphasized that in the new historical epoch the nature of armed conflict, operational art and tactics will come increasingly to depend upon the level of military weaponry and equipment. He wrote in his article "Lessons of the Moscow Uprising" (1906) that the army's increasingly extensive use of automatic weapons confirmed with all possible clarity the validity of the Marxist thesis that "military tactics depend upon the level of military equipment" (see V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 13, p 374). In the interests of the defense of the achievements of the revolution he therefore required of all military cadres that they keep continuous track of trends in the development of military weapons and equipment and in a timely manner develop and assimilate new modes and methods of conducting military operations. These Leninist directions have acquired especially great importance under the conditions created by the present-day scientific-technical revolution. It is common knowledge that the armies of the capitalist countries are now saturated to the limit with advanced nuclear missiles and modern equipment. According to UN estimates, the arsenals of nuclear weapons are approaching 1.5 million Hiroshima-type bombs. Their total power has exceeded 50 billion tons of "conventional" explosive. These weapons could destroy every living thing on earth 15 times over (see PRAVDA, 29 Apr 80).

The saturation of present-day armies with these powerful weapons and military equipment not only does not minimize, but on the contrary, increases the role of the human being in war. "In organizing the training and indoctrination process," writes Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, minister of defense of the USSR, "commanders, political organs and party organizations throughout the armed forces proceed on the basis of the fact that the human being, having mastered to perfection his weapons and equipment, high in morale, political qualities and fighting skill, has been and remains the decisive force in war" (D. F. Ustinov, "Izbrannyye rechi i stat'i" [Selected Speeches and Articles], Moscow, 1979, p 502). Modern war imposes high requirements upon military training of army personnel. "The conduct of that army is stupid, or even criminal," V. I. Lenin wrote in in his "Detskaya bolezn' 'levisny' v kommunizme" [Left-wing Communism, An Infantile Disorder], "which fails to prepare itself to seize upon and master all the weapons, all the means and methods of conducting combat operations which an enemy has or may have" (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 41, p 81).

In building the workers' and peasants' Red Army, V. I. Lenin attached special importance to systematic application of a class principle in the training and promotion of command cadres. "In building the new army," he declared, "we should take our commanders only

from among the people. Red officers alone will carry authority among the soldiers and be able to consolidate and strengthen socialism in our army" (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 37, p 200). To train command cadres from among leading workers and the toiling peasantry our country developed an extensive system of short courses and military schools. A system of higher military training and educational installations, the General Staff Academy among others, was created to train senior and higher command personnel.

By the beginning of 1919 the core of the Red Army command structure consisted of commanders who had been advanced from among the ranks of junior commanders and soldiers as well as from among graduates of the earliest military courses. But under civil-war conditions this was clearly insufficient from both the quantitative and qualitative points of view. It was necessary to improve the general as well as the professional military training of military cadres. Upon the initiative of V. I. Lenin, many former officers of the old Russian army now loyal to the Soviet regime were therefore drawn into the service of the armed forces.

V. I. Lenin taught that the use of bourgeois specialists in military and economic development constituted a specific mode of class struggle. He laid thorough groundwork for the principles to govern the mutual relationships between commissars and party cells and the bourgeois specialists. Addressing himself to Red Army political personnel, Vladimir Il'ich declared: "Check every step they (the military specialists--A. B.) take and every order they issue, but learn from them at the same time. Communists don't have to be ashamed to study and learn from specialists. Commissars are to keep the closest possible eye on military specialists but not to terrorize them. Some skill is required in our approach to them. Many tsarist officers have come to us and are serving honorably; they love their motherland and have resolved to assist us honorably; we have to help them, create a good working atmosphere and build confidence. But enemies turn up among them as well; they come to us on missions assigned by counter-revolutionaries. And then there are waverers. Your job is to identify them" ("Vospominaniya o V. I. Lenine" [Reminiscences of V. I. Lenin], Moscow, Part 2, p 269).

Lenin's proposal to employ military specialists to improve the professional military training of Red Army personnel won the support of the entire party at 8th Congress of the RKP(b) [Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks)]. The period 2 June to 15 August 1918 saw 48,409 brought into Red Army service, altogether some 100,000 officers and generals of the old army over the course of the entire Civil War (see: "O voyenno-teoreticheskom nasledii V. I. Lenina" [V. I. Lenin's Legacy of Military Theory], p 112).

Close ties with the masses and with all groups of military servicemen also distinguished V. I. Lenin as a military leader of a new type. During the most difficult years of the Civil War as well as after the war was over, and despite the fact that he was busy with other matters at the same time, Vladimir Il'ich always found time to speak to soldiers and sailors, to meet with delegations of military servicemen, participate in graduation festivities for Red Army commanders or to speak with commissars and personnel of armed forces political organs. V. I. Lenin had an inner need to meet with the workers, peasants and soldiers of the Red Army. The following example will suffice: from March 1918 through 1923 he spoke to workers, Red Army personnel and peasants in and around Moscow more than 250 times. Over the same period of time Vladimir Il'ich visited more than 30 settlements and villages in Moskovskaya Guberniya. He took advantage of any occasion to learn the mood of the masses personally and to have contact with them.

In conversations with commanders and Red Army personnel V. I. Lenin stressed that socialism could be consolidated and strengthened in our army only with the establishment

of close ties with rank-and-file personnel. In recalling his meeting with V. I. Lenin, Marshal of the Soviet Union S. K. Timoshenko told how Vladimir Il'ich would ask about the troops and their frame of mind and advise: "...lean on them, rely on them; they will always be a source of suggestions and inspiration. The main thing is to be out among the troops, out among the masses" ("Vospominaniya o V. I. Lenine" [Reminiscences of V. I. Lenin], Part 2, p 398). V. I. Lenin taught that the commander who looks for support among the masses of his men, in his organization, will to a considerable degree broaden his own experience and increase his knowledge. His instructions and orders will carry greater force because they will be looked upon as an expression of the will of the masses and of their wishes and interests.

V. I. Lenin demonstrated the validity of the thesis that the wars imperialism generates are waged in pursuit of definite political aims. This intensifies the inter-relationships between politics and the nature of armed conflict. In the passages he copied out from Clausewitz's book "On War and the Waging of War," V. I. Lenin noted that "'the nature of the political aim' has a decisive impact upon the waging of the war..." ("Leninskiy sbornik" [The Lenin Collection], Vol 12, p 429). The impact of politics is intensified civil and national-liberation wars as well as in wars between states with opposing social systems. In defining this inter-relationship V. I. Lenin formulated the following thesis: "The more profoundly political a war the more 'military' it appears, the less profoundly political the more 'political' it appears" (Ibid., p 397).

Even under the conditions prevailing in a socialist society, the close link between politics and war requires political leadership and direction of the organization of the defense of the fatherland on the part of the country's most authoritative political organ--the Marxist-Leninist party and the socialist state, better quality political training and moral-ideological indoctrination of all categories of military service personnel and heightening their consciousness, ideological conviction and devotion to the cause of socialism. V. I. Lenin believed that it was the Communist Party Central Committee, drawing on Marxist doctrine on war and the army and taking into account the disposition of the world's political forces, the economic, technical-military and human resources of its own country and of its coalition allies, levels of military development and other factors, that defines the basic principles of the military policy of the socialist state and its primary content. Trotskiy, chairman of the Revvoyensovet respubliki [Revolutionary Military Council of the Republic], who tried by all possible means to escape control by the RKP(b) Central Committee and consciously sabotaged the implementation of party directives, stood in opposition to this Leninist position. To cut short these attempts on the part of Trotskiy and some of his adherents, the RKP(b) Central Committee on the initiative of V. I. Lenin adopted the decree "The Policy of the Military Department," which provided that "military department policy, just like that of all other departments and institutions, will be conducted in precise accordance with general directives handed down by the party in the person of its Central Committee and under its immediate oversight" ("KPSS o Vooruzhennykh Silakh Sovetskogo Soyuza: Sb. dokumentov, 1917-1958" [The CPSU on the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union: A Collection of Documents, 1917-1958], Moscow, 1958, p 47).

Guided by Lenin's directives, the Communist Party brought all aspects of military development in the new Soviet Republic under its authority: the selection and placement of senior military cadres, the development of basic strategic objectives, all forms of Red Army supply and the organization of political party work within it. And when the young Soviet regime had to repulse the military intervention of international imperialism and the onslaught of counter-revolution, the Council of Defense was set up by decision of the RKP(b) Central Committee and the VTsIK [All-Russian Central Executive Committee] on 30 November 1918 to provide more effective political party leadership of the

entire defense of the Soviet Republic and to transform the country into a unified military camp. "The Council of Defense," declared the decree establishing it, "is granted full authority to mobilize the country's manpower and material resources in the interests of defense" ("Iz istorii grazhdanskoy voyny v SSSR" [From the History of the Civil War in the USSR], Moscow, 1960, Vol 1, p 220). Of exceptionally critical importance was the fact that the Council of Defense was headed by the leader of the Communist Party and head of the Soviet Government, V. I. Lenin. His unflagging energy and unquestioned authority played a decisive role in rebuilding the country's economy and organizing the entire system of government on a military footing, in the creation and strengthening of the Red Army and in insuring the defense of the socialist revolution and victory over the interventionists and White Guards. The following figures testify to V. I. Lenin's ceaseless political and military activity in his position as chairman of the Council of Defense. From December 1918 through 24 December 1920, 143 (of 175) sessions of the Council of Defense were held under his chairmanship. In the course of 1919 alone V. I. Lenin directed the work of 14 Central Committee plenums and 40 meetings of the Politburo of the RKP(b) Central Committee at which military matters were decided. From November 1917 through November 1920 he wrote more than 600 telegrams and letters dealing with the country's defense, military organization and development and the waging of the armed conflict.

V. I. Lenin devoted a great deal of attention to the organization of political party work in the armed forces. A well-organized system of political-ideological indoctrination and purposeful, goal-oriented political indoctrination of personnel conducted by party cells, political workers and commanders helped strengthen the Red Army, increase its fighting efficiency and improve the discipline, organization and coordination of its units and formations. "...Our victories on the Don," V. I. Lenin declared in 1919, "were possible solely because of our intensification of party and cultural-educational activity within the ranks of the Red Army" (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 38, pp 35-36).

The institution of military commissars, which was established with the direct participation of V. I. Lenin, played an enormous role in strengthening the Red Army and heightening the political consciousness of its officers and men. Vladimir Il'ich kept a constant eye on the activities of these military commissars and participated in their selection and assignment. At the end of 1918 the Council of Defense considered the matter of assigning commissars to 10 newly formed rifle divisions. The decree, written by V. I. Lenin, declared: "...do everything possible in the way of political agitation and dispatching commissars to the divisions being formed" ("The Lenin Collection," Vol 34, p 60). Every time a critical situation developed on one front or another, the RKP(b) Central Committee and V. I. Lenin considered it necessary above all to dispatch military commissars there.

The activities of the military commissars embodied the leading and directing role of the Communist Part in the Armed Forces. Convinced, ardent agitators and propagandists of the ideas of the Communist Party and of its domestic and foreign policies, the military commissars skillfully organized political party work among armed forces personnel and indoctrinated servicemen in the spirit of political vigilance, conscious military discipline, loyalty to the revolution and responsibility for the defense of the socialist motherland. They strove to establish healthy relationships between the military specialists and the masses of Red Army servicemen; it was to a substantial degree that their activities contibuted to the coming over of many former officers and generals of the old army to the side of the revolution and the Soviet regime.

V. I. Lenin devoted special attention to augmenting the party component in the armed forces and to improvement of the work of army party organizations. Playing an important role in the rapid augmentation of the party component of the army were the general

party mobilizations of communists for the front the RKP(b) Central Committee carried out upon the initiative of V. I. Lenin and under his direction. During the second half of 1918 no fewer than 60,000 communists left, arms in hand, to defend the Soviet regime (see Yu. P. Petrov, "Stroitel'stvo politorganov, partiynykh i komsomol'skikh organizatsiy armii i flota (1918-1968)" [The Development of Political Organs and Party and Komsomol Organizations in the Armed Forces (1918-1968)], Moscow, 1968, p 22). The cream of the party and of the workers and peasants was concentrated in the Red Army.

V. I. Lenin considered the most important task of party cells and communists to consist in the inculcation of a new, conscious discipline. Summing up the results of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government in connection with the formation of the Red Army, V. I. Lenin wrote: "There is an army. There is a new discipline in it. This discipline is maintained by our party cells and workers and commissars, who left in their hundreds of thousands for the front and explained to the workers and peasants why we were fighting the war. That was what brought our army to its turning point" (V. I. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 37, p 382).

V. I. Lenin saw the force of party influence to lie not only in propaganda and agitation, but also in the personal example set by communists, which is especially important in a combat situation. Communists should always assume the most difficult and critical responsibilities and draw the nonparty masses with them by the force of their personal example. Communists have always acted in accordance with these behests and will continue to do so. In his book "Malaya zemlya" [In Occupied Territory] L. I. Brezhnev writes: "The true army political worker is the one people gather around; he has a thorough understanding of their frame of mind, their needs, their hopes and their dreams; he is the one who leads them to self-sacrifice and to the accomplishment of great deeds. And if you take into consideration the fact that the fighting spirit of personnel has always been recognized as the most important factor of their strength and steadfastness, it is precisely the political worker who was entrusted with the keenest weapon during the war. He tempered the hearts and souls of our fighting men, without which tanks, guns and aircraft would have brought us no victory" (L. I. Brezhnev, "Leninskim kursom: Rechi, privetstviya, stat'i, vospominaniya" [Following Lenin's Path: Speeches, Greetings, Articles and Reminescences], Vol 7, pp 28-29).

Vladimir Il'ich Lenin personified the new type of political and military leader, a leader suited to the historic new tasks the working class is accomplishing in the process of carrying out its historical mission. His teaching concerning the defense of the socialist fatherland guides the CPSU in its efforts in connection with organization of the defense of the achievements of socialism.

COPYRIGHT: Izd-vo "Vysshaya shkola". "Nauchnyy kommunizm", 1981

8963
CSO: 1801/204

ECONOMY MEASURES USED IN ARMED FORCES DISCUSSED

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 6, Mar 81 (signed to press 26 Feb 81) pp 26-27

[Article by Col-Gen Intend Serv V. N. Dutov, chief of Central Finance Administration, Ministry of Defense USSR: "A State Matter"]

[Text] In our country socialist competition for the realization of the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress has assumed a broad scale. The struggle for efficient administration, economy, and thrift has become a component part of this competition.

Our correspondent met with the chief of the Central Finance Administration of the Soviet Ministry of Defense, Colonel-General of Intendant's Service Vladimir Nikolayevich Dutov, and asked him to tell how the men of the Armed Forces are participating in the national struggle.

By the labor and effort of the Soviet people led by the Communist Party, we have created a gigantic production potential which permits ensuring the forward development of the economy and keeping the country's defensive capability at the proper level. And we, Soviet people, are dealing with all this. But are we doing everything to augment these colossal riches and to preserve, economize, and protect what has been done by human hands?

A regard for the people's property is a noble feature of the Soviet man who has been brought up by the party and the entire tenor of our way of life. Our leader and teacher, Vladimir Il'ich Lenin, attached important significance to a strict regime of economy and a thrifty, zealous attitude toward socialist property. In the first days after the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, in appealing to the workers of Soviet Russia he called upon them as follows:

"Cherish and guard as the apple of your eye land, bread, factories, weapons, produce, and transport--henceforth, all this will be completely your, national, property."

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union displays constant concern for the realization of the Lenin order. The 26th CPSU Congress stressed that for the successful accomplishment of the economic and social tasks it is necessary to raise in every possible way the productivity and quality of labor, wage a decisive struggle against

thriftlessness and wastefulness, observe the strictest regime of economy in the consumption of labor and material resources, and utilize each minute of working time productively. This was often mentioned by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev.

"However much the wealth of our society has grown," he points out, "the strictest economy and thrift remain a most important condition for the development of the national economy and raising the well-being of the people."

They say that thrift is the mother of wealth. Correctly said. A savings of only one percent of the material resources at the scales of our country saves up to [illegible] billion rubles per year. This is why intensification of a regime of economy becomes a matter of state importance.

The men of the Armed Forces understand that the accomplishment of the missions facing them depends not only on the volume of economic resources allocated for the defense of the country, but also, in considerable measure, on how effectively and economically they are expended.

The armed defenders are persistently struggling for the economy of material and monetary resources and the safe keeping of socialist property. This pertains not only to financial and administrative activity, but also to the process of troop control, combat training, supply services, the operation and repair of armament, equipment, and property, and troop shipments.

Socialist competition is expanding throughout all our country to implement the decisions of the 26th Congress of the Communist Party, a component part of which has become the struggle for zealous management, economy, and thrift.

High results were attained in the unit where the entire complex of economic work is directed by officer Ya. Yarmysh. Over a period of several years there have been no violations of financial discipline here and monetary resources are expended economically and only for their direct purpose. Training classrooms have been equipped with minimum expenditures as have barracks and service premises, and equipment is reliably sheltered. During last year, more than 5 tons of gasoline and 17 tons of diesel fuel were saved here. More than 15 tons of meat and 10 tons of potatoes were obtained from the kitchen farm....

In the separate airfield technical service and maintenance battalion commanded by Major A. Gnezdilov, all subunits won the honored right to be called subunits of the thrifty.

The correct refuelling of fuel tanks and containers which excludes losses, regulated routes of movement for vehicle transport and other equipment, a thrifty attitude toward the use of military property, electric power, and heat--these are only some of the "secrets" of such success. It is not by chance that this battalion has borne the title of excellent for several years in a row.

Thrift is a communist feature. It is also displayed under army conditions. The Soviet servicemen see as their patriotic duty the thrifty care and operation of

armament and equipment and various property, and the well thought-out consumption of fuel and water, each kilogram of fuels and lubricants, and each kilowatt of electric power.

We, veterans, know well that soldier operates in war successfully who was not only bold and fearless personally, but also skillfully mastered equipment and weapons and kept them in constant readiness for action.

In "Service Record Book of the Red Army Man" which was approved by V. I. Lenin and Ya. M. Sverdlov in 1918, it was pointed out that "weapons were made available to the soldier at high cost. Therefore, they must be cared for as the apple of your eye. . . Handle the weapons lovingly and cautiously. Lovingly because if you do not take care of them (clean, lubricate, disassemble), they will spoil and disappear, and you are nothing without a weapon."

Under contemporary conditions, when the technical outfitting of the army has grown immeasurably and when it is armed with the most improved weapons, the requirement for care for weapons and equipment acquires special significance.

Let us imagine for an instant that due to the poor state of training or carelessness of some crew member of an antiaircraft missile launcher it is suddenly discovered that it is defective and cannot execute a launch on time. And at this moment enemy high-speed airplanes fly by. It is not difficult to understand with what terrible consequences this is fraught.

And the necessity to care for combat equipment and weapons in every possible way is dictated by one more extremely important circumstance. We should be able to see behind them the labor of their creators--designers, technicians, test personnel, workers.... How much intellect, energy, and strength and how many sleepless nights these people devoted to their creation! And they are right in expecting that the men of the Armed Forces will have the attitude of thrifty owners toward them and are doing everything so that this mighty and expensive equipment is constantly in combat readiness.

Everything which was attained, was made by the hands of the Soviet people, and which reached the troops must be used wisely, without losses, and with maximum return.

The tankers commanded by Major M. Kondakov achieve high indices in combat and political training from year to year. They have the best equipment in the garrison and an excellent administration. As the results of the final check showed, due to the careful attitude toward equipment, armament, and military property the personnel saved many thousands of rubles. This year, the tankers are struggling stubbornly and persistently for the right to be called subunit of the thrifty.

The name of communist Warrant Officer [praporshchik] I. Prokopenko is well known in the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District. He is a master of driving and instructor. He was one of the first to begin the struggle for a second life for the tank and to save fuels and lubricants.

"Our machines," he declared, "can serve much longer than is determined by the norms. I pledge to prove this in fact."

And he proved it. During service time Prokopenko worked on machines of various marks, mastering and studying one, he transferred to a second, and a third. As on each one he prolonged the between-repair operating periods by dozens and hundreds of kilometers.

This is what they say in the unit:

"Prokopenko gave the motherland the gift of a tank."

Yes, namely a gift. And he did this through economizing on motor capacity which is equal to expenditures on maintaining a tank from production to major overhaul, bypassing medium repair. The tanker saved almost as many resources as the combat vehicle costs.

The motor-vehicle troops are making a large contribution to the saving of resources. By their conscientious attitude toward the care for equipment, they are prolonging the life of vehicles, storage batteries, tires....

The best driver in the unit, Junior Sergeant Anatoliy Dement'yev, relates:

"What does it mean for us, the drivers, to save fuel? Suffice it to say that 200 grams of gasoline are an extra kilometer of distance.

"Each time prior to departure, I carefully check the condition and operation of each assembly. And when I return to the motor pool, I attentively inspect my vehicle, wash it, and tighten the bolts and nuts.

"This gave me the opportunity to save 50 liters of gasoline in only three months. This amount seems to be insignificant to an uninitiated person. But if each driver saves basic resources like this, by grams, the total contribution to the state's economy will be very significant.

I believe that a crusade for economy and thrift should be declared in all subunits.

Imagine what a big thing we will do if we ensure a truly zealous, thrifty attitude toward combat equipment, fuels and lubricants, electric power, and the people's and state property in each company, battery, and squadron, in each unit, and on each ship.

The men's concern for the people's property is also manifested in the fact that in the troop units work on the current repair of buildings and structures, the organization of public services and amenities on the territory and the planting of the environments, and the organization of clubs, Lenin rooms, and libraries is accomplished using a thrifty method in the troop units by the efforts of the personnel without harm to combat and political training.

The zealous attitude of the soldiers and seamen toward the uniform and footwear, bed linen and underwear, the correct care of clothing, and timely repair contribute to prolonging the periods of their wear and create the opportunity to accumulate supplies of work clothing and clothing for the exchange pool.

Considerable state significance is tied to a careful attitude toward bread. With the correct organization of baking, storing, and bringing it to the table, a significant savings is attained without detriment to the men being fed and additional monetary resources go to the unit and ship's funds.

We should always remember that the path from the grain which has been sown in the field to the fragrant slices of bread on the soldiers' table and from the cotton which has been grown to military clothing is long and difficult. The tremendous labor of our people, of our fathers and mothers, is invested here. And with our thrift, we render their due to the labor of Soviet people and their concern for their army.

Experience shows that where the struggle is genuinely waged for economy and thrift, results are higher in combat and political training and discipline is stronger. Here is a typical example.

The accomplishment of tank-driving exercises became a severe test of the skill of the driver-mechanics. The men of the competing companies commanded by Captain V. Gizatullin and Senior Lieutenant A. Sorokin drove the combat vehicles skillfully, crossed obstacles skillfully and at high speeds, and coped successfully with the assigned mission.

It was difficult for the lesson director to determine who should receive first place: there were only two good grades in each subunit and the rest were excellent. In determining the winners of the socialist competition, they began to consider how much saved fuel was to the credit of the tankers and who had the longer between-repair run of the combat vehicles. With consideration of these indices, the company of Senior Lieutenant Sorokin came out ahead.

Many military construction troops joined in the struggle for economy. At one construction site our eyes were struck by the following appeal:

"Military builder! Take the leaders of production as your example and work self-lessly in the sector entrusted to you. Join in the crusade of the thrifty! Expend construction materials economically.

"Remember: one brick costs 3.2 kopecks; save 1,000 bricks and you save the state 32 rubles. Rubles accumulate from kopecks...."

A poster indicated the cost of one cubic meter of crushed stone, sand, rubble stone, boards, one square meter of window glass, and other construction materials.

It ended with the words:

"Think over these figures, soldier, and the popular wisdom will become visible and tangible for you: 'Save the kopecks and the rubles will take care of themselves'."

How much each soldier and seaman can do if he regards his duties with the feeling of an owner! The main thing here is the ability to look after the small things and to appreciate the grams, drops, and seconds from which large, ponderable values are formed in the end.

In one subunit the first sergeant reprimanded a young soldier for losing his mittens. And the latter said in justification:

"But this is minutia.... Is it worth considering such kopecks?"

The newcomer is wrong. It should be well known that just as deep rivers are formed from small streams, what is called a budget of billions of rubles arises from kopecks.

In the struggle for economy and thrift, each of us should become a checker of work--our own and our comrades'. If we are thrifty everywhere--at home, in the barracks, and at the work site, this will provide new wealth which our society has at its disposal in the interests of everyone and each one. And there are reserves for economy and thrift everywhere.

If a repairman-soldier must leave the machine tool, let him turn off the knife switch so as not to waste electric power. Nor is it shameful to suggest to a comrade who has not closed a faucet that a small stream of water with the thickness of an ordinary match comprises hundreds of liters per day.

It often happens as follows--bulbs burn unnecessarily in classrooms, residential rooms, and electric appliances are left on. And you see, this is indifference and direct wasting of the people's property. In this connection, I should like to cite one eloquent figure. One percent of the electrical energy saved for our country equals its annual production in such countries as Egypt, Pakistan, and Ireland.

In conclusion, I should like to stress once more: expend material and financial resources with care, economically, and efficiently and protect military and the people's property as the apple of your eye--this is a task of state importance. To accomplish it successfully means making a large contribution to the strengthening of the economic and defensive might of our beloved motherland.

COPYRIGHT: "Sovetskiy voin", 1981

6 6/
CSO: 1801/238

VETERANS' BENEFITS DISCUSSED

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 8 May 81 p 2

[Article by A. Luk'yanenko, Ukrainian SSR minister of social security: "With Love and Care"]

[Text] Thirty-six years have gone by since the day of fascist Germany's complete and unconditional surrender. Certain events of the war have been erased from our memory, but time cannot blot out the magnitude of the feat performed by the Soviet people and their valorous Armed Forces led by the Leninist party.

Far from all of the soldiers managed to return home. Our losses were great. They still bring pain to our hearts. We have erected monuments and memorials in their honor, and streets, schools, squares and cities have been named after them. The homeland has surrounded the war veterans with care and attention.

Under the Law on State Pensions, for example, former servicemen receive old-age and disability pensions, and their families receive pensions when the breadwinner is lost. Especially beneficial terms have been established for granting pensions to disabled war veterans, and their security allotments are larger than those of other groups of citizens.

Disability pensions are granted to them, irrespective of their length of service or previous work. The size of a pension is determined by the degree of loss of ability to work, earnings prior to induction into the military service, military rank and other factors. For example, disabled war veterans with seriously impaired eyesight, support or motor organs, who require special care, are granted pensions 20 percent greater than old-age pensions. Additional amounts of up to 30 rubles for dependents and 20 rubles for special care have also been established for unemployed disabled war veterans in group I, and working disabled veterans in groups I and II receive pensions in addition to their wages regardless of their income. Pensions are increased with a deterioration of health, and old-age pensions are granted under preferential terms. The age of elligibility for old-age pensions has been reduced by 5 years to 55 years for men and 50 years for women.

A great deal is done to protect the health of war veterans.

Disabled Patriotic War veterans are entitled to preferential treatment at outpatient and general medical facilities, to no-wait hospitalization, post-pension use of general medical facilities to which they were assigned while working, free provision and repair of dentures, and free receipt of medicine with a doctor's prescription. In the case of a temporary loss of ability to work, aid is paid to employed disabled veterans in the amount of 100 percent of their earnings, regardless of the length of their uninterrupted period of work.

Disabled veterans are giving priority where they work for passes to sanatoria, preventive medical facilities, and receive priority for treatment at sanatoria and health resorts. The AUCCTU, ministries, departments, enterprises and institutions annually set aside 10 percent of their passes for these individuals. Unemployed disabled war veterans are provided free passes by social security and public health agencies.

Disabled Patriotic War veterans with the required medical certificate are issued a free Zaporozhets passenger car with manual controls for a period of seven years, and if the individual is not able to drive a car, he is issued a motor-driven wheelchair for a five-year period.

In certain cases it is permitted for a family member permanently residing with the disabled veteran to drive the Zaporozhets for servicing. The decision is made by the oblispolkom. Patriotic War veterans in group I with loss of vision--Heroes of the Soviet Union and holders of the Order of Glory (three degrees)--also receive free Zaporozhets automobiles.

Individuals receiving free automobiles or motor-driven wheelchairs and those purchasing the same under special terms, as well as disabled war veterans in groups I and II who purchase motor vehicles at retail price, are reimbursed for the cost of gasoline, repair work, technical maintenance and spare parts.

Disabled war veterans also enjoy great benefits when traveling on urban transportation systems, by rail or air transport.

National laws covering disabled war veterans also establish considerable advantages with respect to the provision of housing, individual housing construction, major repair work, the provision of construction materials and fuel, and other services. Disabled war veterans and the families of deceased servicemen with a need for better housing are assigned housing on a priority basis. A total of 37,000 war veterans and families of deceased servicemen were given new apartments or provided with improved housing in the republic during the years of the 10th Five-Year Plan.

They can also obtain loans for individual housing construction of up to 1500 rubles, the loan to be paid off within a 10-year period beginning the third year following the completion of construction. Disabled veterans pay no interest on these loans or on loans obtained for cooperative housing construction or major repairs. Disabled veterans and families of deceased servicemen are issued local construction materials on a priority basis and receive a discount on housing, heating, water, gas and electric power.

A special effort is made to create working conditions for disabled veterans, whereby they can participate to the extent of their capability in public production and feel that they enjoy their full rights as citizens of the country. Under a government enactment as much as two percent of the total number of jobs at enterprises and in organizations are specially reserved for disabled veterans. The enterprise administration is required to help the disabled veteran to acquire and improve his job skills and to create the kind of working conditions they require.

The republic is expanding its system of specialized enterprises, shops and sections employing disabled veterans suffering from neurological and mental disorders, illnesses of the cardiovascular system or organs of sight, or from deterioration of the support and motor system. Other advantages have also been established for disabled war veterans employed at enterprises.

These are the most important benefits and advantages established for war veterans by the Law of the USSR, ukases issued by the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and decisions issued by the USSR Council of Ministers. In addition to these, a number of other benefits and privileges have also been established for former military personnel by legislative enactments of the Union republics and by ministries, departments and ispolkoms of soviets of people's deputies.

During the 10th Five-Year Plan the Party and government made a special effort to improve social security for Great Patriotic War veterans and the families of deceased front-line soldiers. A number of decrees designed to accomplish this were passed by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers at the initiative of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers passed the decree "On Additional Measures to Improve Material and Living Conditions for Veterans of the Great Patriotic War" on 21 February 1980, for example, and the decree "On the Further Improvement of Pensions, Material and Housing Conditions for Disabled Patriotic War Veterans and the Families of Servicemen Who Died at the Front" on 26 May 1980.

By way of fulfilling these decrees social security agencies took steps to increase by 10 percent the pensions paid to disabled Great Patriotic War veterans in groups I and II, and increased the minimum pension for Patriotic War veterans in group III to 40 rubles. Since 1 May 1980 pensions have been granted to the wives of servicemen who died at the front regardless of whether they were being supported by their husbands and of the time they became unable to work or reached old age.

Since that same date one's connection with agriculture has not been taken into account for granting pensions to any serviceman or individual receiving a pension due to the loss of a breadwinner who served in the military. As a result, pensions for individuals living in rural areas and involved in agriculture have been increased to 100 percent of the standard amounts.

As we approach our national celebration of the Victory we are receiving more and more reports that disabled war veterans and the families of deceased servicemen are receiving well-designed apartments and are receiving effective assistance and care from the collectives of enterprises, institutes, tekhnikums, schools and other organizations which have assumed permanent patronage over them.

We must arrange matters universally so that not a single individual in this group of the population is forgotten, so that each of them receives constant support and care from their labor collective, from the entire Soviet society.

"The party and the state concern themselves constantly with the health and well-being of labor and war veterans," states the Accountability Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 26th party congress. It is our common task to implement this principle constantly and undeviatingly.

11499
CSO: 1801

AIRBORNE TROOPS NIGHT RECONNAISSANCE TRAINING

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 5, Mar 81 (signed to press 16 Feb 81) pp 6-7

[Article by Gds Sr Lt V. Sosnitskiy: "In a Night Search"]

[Text] The assembly point was at the edge of a swamp. Guards Sergeant V. Glushenkov and Guards Private First Class M. Rodionov were the first to arrive there. The others also assembled there after several minutes. The subunit commander, Guards Lieutenant A. Kobelev, in defining the mission in detail, reminded the paratroopers that the success of tomorrow's battle, for which the main forces were preparing, would depend on the actions of each one. Reconnaissance was to begin with the onset of darkness.

Dense storm clouds covered the sky quickly. The scouts are taking off into the night in different directions. Young commanders who had already been tested many times in a difficult "combat" situation--Guards Lieutenants Bobkov and Tenigin--are leading them. The difficulty of this night search was increased not only by the fact that the "enemy" was equipped with night vision instruments and had information of the force's drop in his rear area, but also by the defense which had not been planned in the standard version. And this forced us to operate even more cautiously and attentively.

The light of a match which flashed and was extinguished momentarily in the night became a reference point for the direction of search by one of our groups. Another blocked the road. The third rushed toward a height which dominated the terrain--a more suitable place for an "enemy" strong point could not be assumed.

Guards Private Sergey Ovsiy went first in our group. It was he who had earlier heard other muffled clanking of metal on the hill. Crawling for hundreds of meters, short dashes, and we find ourselves at the very "enemy" trenches. A muffled whisper and the steps of a sentinal at a tent are heard. And suddenly, the bright beam of a searchlight from somewhere to the side. Wresting hummocks and bushes out of the darkness, it is creeping closer and closer to us. We want to squeeze into the ground. Gliding over the protuberances of our bodies which are pressed into the grass, the beam moves farther on. They are searching. But we still have the same mission. Therefore, we must act. Guards Private V. Koltun receives the mission to determine the composition and designation of the "enemy" subunit, Guards Sergeant A. Temnikov--to reconnoiter the primary and alternate weapons positions, and Guards Private S. Ovsiy is to provide cover for the entire group.

The sketch of the strong point is completely prepared in half an hour. But this is only the beginning. The search continues.

Meanwhile, the section of Guards Lieutenant Bobkov, which had lain with the group at the road, completely justified itself. The scouts jumped into the body of a vehicle which was on the move and which was towing a field kitchen, and they successfully reached the "enemy's" dispositions. The rest, as they say, was an accustomed matter for well trained soldiers. The initiative of Guards Sergeant V. Glushenkov and the sharpness of Guards Private A. Korochkin permitted the group not only to obtain important information on the "enemy," but also to discover his crafty intentions.

Having good knowledge of the degree of individual state of training of each subordinate, Guards Lieutenant Tenigin divided his group into pairs. He assigned to each of them an independent mission in the accomplishment of which high self-discipline and the ability to orient oneself in a rapidly changing situation were required of the paratroopers.

Conducting reconnaissance of the strong point in several directions, the Guardsmen disclosed the system for deployment of antitank weapons in a short time and found passages in the obstacles which the "enemy" had set out.

"For the scout, the memory is also a weapon," Guards Sergeant V. Zhurkin usually says to his subordinates. This time, he actually confirmed his statement. The paratrooper imprinted in his memory the location of each "enemy" combat vehicle position and remembered the numbers of the majority of them. Later, during the attack by the main body, all this permitted the swift breakthrough of the "enemy" defense on this very sector.

When the reconnaissance groups assembled in the appointed place with the first rays of the sun and all data had been generalized and turned over to the staff, we were assigned a new mission. In its complexity, it was not inferior to the night search. It was necessary to hold up the moving up of "enemy" reserves for a time at any price.

Not losing a minute, the groups moved out to the ambush sites. It was necessary to move using the swamps and copses--morning had already come into its own. There were dozens of kilograms of demolition explosives and battle reserves in the scouts' rucksacks.

Making an estimate of the situation, Guards Lieutenant Tenigin decided to erect an obstruction on the road and to mine the bypass route. Experienced demolitions men Guards Sergeant I. Kashtanov and Guards Private First Class Yemel'yanenko undertook the work. The paratroopers understood that they had no time to spare; therefore, they operated with maximum harmony and precision. The last clod of dirt which camouflaged a "mine" fell on the ground simultaneously with the report of observer Guards Private S. Nazarkin concerning the approach of an "enemy" combat reconnaissance patrol.

"Let the reconnaissance pass through. Our business is the main column," Guards Lieutenant V. Tenigin transmits the command.

When the column's lead vehicle began to bypass the obstruction, the first column of dirt, fire, and smoke rose in its path. The "enemy" opened fire blindly because of the surprise. The paratroopers bided their time: they did not have superiority in strength; therefore it was necessary to count on military cunning.

Exploiting the confusion in the column, the scouts threw "grenades" on the combat vehicles. The infantry which had dismounted was met by well organized fire. Constantly changing firing positions, Guards Sergeant V. Zhurkin and Guards Private First Class M. Krikunov decided to knock out the the "enemy's" command vehicle. Zhurkin covered his comrade, arresting the attackers' attention and, meanwhile, Krikunov, rushed toward the vehicle with a swift flanking movement. He had no more "grenades." Picking up two stumps of a log on the way, he used them to jam the tracks of the combat vehicle, and then he removed the radio antenna. Tearing the canvas from the vehicle, he tightly covered the observation instruments with it.

Even when the scouts were running out of ammunition, they continued to wage "battle." Charges which had been emplaced in a well-thought-out manner put one "enemy" combat vehicle after another out of operation. Precious minutes were gained.

After a critique of the exercises, the paratroopers assembled in a clearing. The price at which victory had been won in the training battles which had taken place could be determined easily from the external appearance of the scouts. Blackened faces covered with dust, coveralls torn in places.

Yes, just as all the paratrooper's service reconnaissance, by the way, requires not only the strength of muscles but also a lofty moral spirit, will, knowledge, perfected soldierly skills and, most important, the boundless devotion to his duty by the defender of the motherland.

"There will be a 'combat' jump again the day after tomorrow," the words of Guards Lieutenant A. Kobelev which were pronounced before the formation of his subordinates in an ordinary tone transformed the faces of the men in an instant. The crow's feet of fatigue beneath the eyes were smoothed out, happy smiles began to shine on their faces, and they squared their shoulders.

COPYRIGHT: "Sovetskiy voin", 1981

6367
CSO: 1801/227

BRIDGING EXERCISE DESCRIBED

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 5, Mar 81 (signed to press 16 Feb 81) pp 9-11

[Article by Maj V. Voloshin and Maj V. Gribov: "Crossing"]

[Text] The exercise had already been under way for 24 hours. Gathering full force, it seemed to exhaust men and equipment. Mountain peaks covered by shaggy snow caps frowned and sullenly answered each shot and the roar of machines with a murmuring echo. The attackers' path was blocked by a river--swift, capricious, and not nicknamed mad for nothing. It had to be tamed as soon as possible.

Unfolding the map on a field table, Lieutenant Colonel Tretina bent his gray head over it. He had seen much in his army life. It was impossible to count how many crossings he had laid, bridges had been emplaced, and roads had been built!

How many times the sharp slate pencil crawls along the blue vein of a river on a large-scale map in search for the only correct decision. A sentence dropped as if for a joke by the commander persistently turns in his thoughts: "At one time, Alexander of Macedonia jumped across a small river like this on wineskins! And you, Comrade Tretina, are also called Aleksandr. And what is more, you have such mighty equipment in your hands!..."

Tretina puts the pencil aside, grins understandingly, and says:

"It may even be easier on wineskins. You took your seat on it, pot-bellied, and it takes you to the other bank like a float."

"Why?" The deputy for political affairs, Lieutenant Colonel Stepan Sergeyevich Dinekop, looked at the commander with puzzlement.

"But I am late in debating this with someone," explained Aleksandr Aleksandrovich and, weighing each word, he said: "The rain messed up our maps. It order to meet the deadline, we will lay the crossing here," and he pointed to a narrow break in the river which is making its way between the mountains.

"But this is impossible!" exclaimed one of the officers who was present at the conversation. "The current will knock you off your feet there, the water level jumps, and really, the near bank will not permit it!"

"I know," Tretina noted calmly, "moreover, for several days prior to us the battalion which is playing the 'enemy' tried to lay a crossing in this same place. They didn't succeed."

"And what about us?"

"We must succeed. Almost all our officers are communists with much experience, and many have decorations. This means that we do not have the right to fail in our mission!"

"Correct," the political deputy supported the commander. "We will assemble the activists and tune up the people: we must provide a safety line for the young soldiers and the matter will proceed. I believe that we can ass'gn the main role at the crossing to the subunits of Major Shabanov and Captain Yurchenko. They are experienced pontoniers."

"I agree," Tretina nodded assent. "But everyone is to work, harmoniously, in short, as they have become accustomed.... I recommend the following plan for laying the crossing...."

There is a well-known saying: "A man's true qualities are discovered only when the time comes to display and prove them in fact." Such a time had arrived for Lieutenant Colonel Tretina and his subordinates: the situation in which the personnel of the ponton battalion found itself actually was extremely difficult and as close as possible to a combat situation. Did the commander have confidence in his subordinates? Unquestionably. But there was a risk, and he must overtake events by his thoughts and will, as if opening slightly the screen of the unknown and foreseeing the strong and weak points in his work. Later, already after the crossing, Lieutenant Colonel Zinekop said to me: "The commander got a little grayer tonight...." We are accustomed to understand: gray, but of course, not from joy but on the contrary, from profound experiences and a great internal struggle. But, as Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Tretina himself believes, the new silvery islets which appeared in his thick hair then --are happy ones. For there is no higher joy in life than consciousness of duty accomplished.

Literally minutes passed after the command, "Assembly." Muffled voices could be heard all around. Emitting sweetish fumes of solar oil, one machine began to drone, a second, a third. The departure area came to life and began to stir.

The commander of the 1st Company, Captain Valeriy Yurchenko, a dark-browed and well-proportioned person, ran up to Major Shabanov and said:

"The scouts have returned, Yuriy Vasil'yevich, we must make an adjustment for the violence of the river." And he placed a map on the plotting board, illuminating it with a flashlight.

Shabanov (and he was appointed the leader of the advanced group laying the bridge) listened attentively to Yurchenko, made some notes in a notebook, and noted with satisfaction:

"Warrant Officer [praporshchik] Nevzglyad does good work--there's a born scout for you! He measured all the deep spots and probed the ground at the banks. It is now clear what is next...."

"Do you see Leonid Ivanovich, as they say, is a full-fledged cavelier: he has two medals 'For Distinction in Military Service'," Yurchenko answered.

Two figures rose up unexpectedly from the darkness--Lieutenant Colonel Tretina and the secretary of the party bureau, Major Reznikov. Standing at attention, Shabanov reported to the commander.

"It means that you will also lower the reserve pontons into the water," Tretina noted, listening to the officer. "And what about the sector for unloading the sections and boats, there is no place to maneuver the machines, and nothing will be attained by the normal method."

"We also thought that out...."

"Well then, let's begin. As they say, good luck...," and the secretary of the party bureau also wished the officers success.

...Arched under the load of the pontons the KrAZ trucks, rumbling with powerful motors, lumbered along the narrow, rocky road. Vision became difficult. A light rain blanketed the timid dawn with a troublesome, dirty-grayish tulle through which a view of the river was opened still unclear and blurred. But everyone already felt its stern temper: the waves beat furiously against the bank, swirled, and foamed.

One of the vehicles which was moving at the head of the column suddenly turned across the road in some strange manner. It stood, stopping the movement of the others.

"That does it," slipped out from Captain Yurchenko. "Time, time is dear...."

"I don't understand it myself, evidently, something happened with the control," the driver, Private Vasiliy Bryukhan' stopped short. The young soldier participated in such an exercise for the first time and was confused. While he collected his thoughts, the senior technician of the company, Warrant Officer Nikolay Shilo, and an experienced driver, Private First Class Yevgeniy Novoselov, had already run up to the KrAZ. They found the malfunction quickly and helped him to eliminate it.

"More calmly, more calmly," communist Shilo patted the young driver on the back approvingly. "Forward, to the river!"

And work was already in full swing on the steep, rocky bank. Senior Lieutenant Vladimir Golovko was charged with directing the dropping of the sections. This operation is most important and Golovko, secretary of the company party organization, is also an hereditary pontooner: his father also laid crossings and now he is a colonel, deputy chief of the higher engineering school which Vladimir had completed. Now he was to begin implementation of the unusual plan for assembling the bridge.

The narrow road did not permit the KrAZ's with the pontons to maneuver. A tractor in whose cab was the best driver, Private Ivan Brovko, was placed at the very water's edge. When the vehicle approached the bank, young communist Sergeant Vladimir Ulyumarov and the secretary of the company Komsomol organization, Sergeant Aleksandr

Nebrov, first attached to the pontons the safety cable from the tractor which was operating with the engine wide open and then, on command, they lowered them to the water. And here Privates Gennadiy Zastrelov and Valeriy Borvinkov held the opened units with the aid of the mooring end.

The river raged and did not want to submit to people. It tried to carry the pontons away downstream, rose up around them, and inundated them, interfering with the joining of the units into a line. Here, the subordinates of communists Senior Lieutenant Yuriy Krepkin and Lieutenant Anatoliy Kirichenko worked as they were so drenched with water that their waterproof jackets did not save them. Handling the levers, the officers were the first to rush to the joining units as soon as the next section was in the water. The noise and din drowned out commands, but the people understood each other well and the necessary rhythm seized them firmly.

Major Shabanov, who attentively followed the assembly of the bridge line, was located right here. Looking at the lean, nimble figure of Lieutenant Kirichenko which appeared first at one and then at the other end of a ponton, the major suddenly recalled him as a lad and schoolboy. It so happened that while still a lieutenant, Shabanov began his service in the battalion commanded by Yuriy Grigor'yevich Kirichenko, Anatoliy's father. Then he also met with the frisky lad who, despite being forbidden by his father, quite often came to them, the pontoneers, on lessons. One day, when Shabanov's platoon was working out the laying of a bridge on a quiet training body of water, Tol'ka jumped out of the bushes on the shore to participate in the operation. Shabanov noticed him when the boy, who had slipped on the wet deck, flew into the water head over heels. It was necessary to rescue the unlucky "pontoneer."

"Well, what do you think you're doing here?" Shabanov began to give Tol'ka a dressing down when they were already on the shore as he rubbed him down, red and stiff with cold.

"It makes no difference, I will be a pontoneer," the latter barely uttered through lips which had become blue.

"First finish school with a five and then learn to swim."

And here's a river again, but not quiet. When the line began to sway with the strong current so that it could just about drift against the rocky bank, and the next section could be carried away, the commander of the excellent platoon, Anatoliy Kirichenko, rushed into the seething stream. Behind him were Private First Class Vladimir Gulakov and Privates Nikolay Popkov and Vyacheslav Grudin. Standing up to the waist in water, they held the ponton in the required position and fastened it....

Bravery. It is judged as one of man's main virtues.

The bravery of the ponton soldiers who participated in the events described may be completely unnoticed. For it is considered a duty rather than an exploit. It is encountered daily in many troop collectives and is expressed not only by the ability to endure difficulties steadfastly, but also by the striving to accomplish the assigned mission come what may.

The bridge line was assembled. Now the most difficult--to bring its end to the opposite bank. An amphibious transporter slowly pulled a cable to bring the bridge up on its axis. With what flair did Senior Lieutenant Yuriy Krepkin understand that because of the strong current the cable is now slipping off and then it will be necessary to lose time again and begin everything from the beginning? Evidently, he noticed that the cable is slack. Without hesitation, he rushed to the deck, plunged his shoulders into the water, and found the pin between the lugs with h nands. Captain Yurchenko held him in time so that he did not slip from the ponton into the river.

When the end of the bridge was brought up to the opposite bank, had been anchored, and all had already breathed with relief, the ground did not withstand it and the anchor began to slide. Warrant Officer Ivan Khramenko was the closest of all on an amphibious transporter. Anticipating such a situation, the commander gave him the mission to fasten the bridge to the bank with an additional cable. The transporter approached right up to one of the pontons. But the strong current turned it around and began to drag it beneath the bridge. The warrant officer did not become confused, placed the boat exactly against the current, and gradually releasing it, he fastened the end of the cable....

And now the bridge connected the banks. But a special situation is sounded: according to a report by the upstream outpost, some of the mines released by "enemy" sabotage groups could not be destroyed. They are being carried to the crossing by the current. It was necessary to uncouple the bridge and to move its sections toward the banks. But when the mines had rushed by and the pontoneers tried to close the bridge, the river again began to resist and called for the assistance of a strong wind which, as often happens in the mountains, flew in suddenly. On one sector, a boat broke a guy cable because of its gusts. Private Mikhail Gashevskiy saw it in time and had the strength to grasp the boat which was slipping away and hold it!

The river provided one more surprise. The snow melt water which had accumulated in the mountains rushed downward in an avalanche. Pouring into the river, the water surge expands the bank. But the pontoneers also anticipated this: reserve pontons are going into service.

Despite everything, the crossing was laid ahead of schedule. Once again, the pontoneers demonstrated high skill, endurance, and resourcefulness. As if being cheered by their success, the sun peeped out from behind the mountains and everyone around here responded to this long-awaited caress of a gloomy day: cheerful patches of light began to play on the water and there were smiles on the tired faces of the pontoneers.

And combat equipment was already moving over the bridge which had been laid. The road was open for the attacking subunits.

...The parade formation stood stiff. The pontoneers are standing shoulder to shoulder, rigid, solemn. The military regalia are shining in the spring sun. Many of them have new things which were received quite recently: the Orders of the Red Star on officers S. Sinekop and I. Savchenko, "For Service to the Motherland in the Soviet Armed Forces," 3d class on Major A. Reznik and Captain V. Yurchenko; medals

"For Combat Services" on Senior Lieutenant V. Golovko and Private N. Subota.... And in the center, in front of the formation Lieutenant Colonel A. Tretina congratulates his subordinates with emotion on their excellent accomplishment of the mission. A unanimous "We serve the Soviet Union!" rings out.

COPYRIGHT: "Sovetskiy voin", 1981

6367
CSO: 1801/227

T-72 TANK DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 5, May 81 (signed to press 21 Apr 81) pp 12-13

[Article by Engr-Col V. Knyaz'kov: "The T-72 Tank"]

[Text] The T-72 tank holds a prominent place among the types of armored equipment developed by Soviet designers. This is a powerful machine which successfully combines great firepower, dependable armor and high maneuverability.

In working to raise the chief combat quality of a tank, the capacity to make fire strikes, the designers have devoted a great deal of attention to its armament. The tank carries a 125-mm cannon, a coupled 7.62-mm caliber machinegun and a 12.7-mm caliber antiaircraft machinegun. The cannon is designed to knock out enemy tanks and self-propelled artillery mounts, to neutralize enemy artillery and various weapons as well as to destroy personnel.

The maximum range to which the gun can be sighted using the daytime sight is 4,000 meters and with the night-vision sight up to 800 meters. The flat trajectory range in firing an armor-piercing composite shot is up to 2,100 meters. The aimed rate of fire is 8 rounds per minutes. It must be stressed that the loading of the cannon is separate and done automatically, and for this reason there is no need for a loader. The crew of the T-72 tank consists of a commander, a gunner and a driver.

The cannon can also be fired from covered fire positions to a range up to 9,400 meters. HE fragmentation shells are used for this.

In principle the tank cannon does not differ from an artillery piece, however it does have a number of particular features. And this is understandable. The interior space of the fighting compartment is limited and for this reason the demands made on the designing of the pieces and assemblies, their weight, strength and durability are particularly rigid. The cannon ensures high accuracy of fire. With the turret it can turn 360°. Motor drives are used for this and they rapidly turn the turret and at the same time smoothly aim the cannon at the target.

On the cannon tube there is a sleeve-like widened piece. Here is the bore evacuator which removes the powder gases from the barrel, or, as they say, for blowing it out.

One other feature of the tank cannon is that it has a gun stabilization system. The stabilizer "remembers" the gun setting. The gunner has merely to aim and a

Key to diagrams on the following page: 1--FG-125 headlight for the driver's night vision; 2--steering lever; 3--equipment for protection system against weapons of mass destruction; 4--gear shift; 5--cannon elevating gear; 6--TDP-2 sight and range finder; 7--TPN1-49-23 night-vision sight; 8--TKN-3 light of vision device (periscope); 9--antiaircraft machinegun; 10--cassette elevating mechanism; 11--antenna lead-in; 12--container for equipment used in the underwater driving of tanks and dry provisions; 13--engine; 14--gear train; 15--fuel barrel; 16--charge and shell in conveyor cassettes; 17--rotating conveyor; 18--gunner's seat; 19--chemical defense equipment; 20--driver's seat; 21--parking brake drive; 22--container for set of spare parts, instruments and accessories; 23--manual mechanism for turning turret; 24--traverse indicator; 25--wedge-type breech-block; 26--PKT coupled machinegun; 27--commander's periscope; 28--side skirting plate; 29--box magazine for PKT machinegun; 30--radio; 31--hydraulic turret traverse mechanism.

special unit fixes the position of the barrel. Moreover, the stabilizer automatically holds the cannon in the position of the initial aiming. Even in moving over rough terrain, when the tank moves from side to side, the cannon remains fixed. The gunner can hit a target on the move virtually with the same accuracy as from a halt.

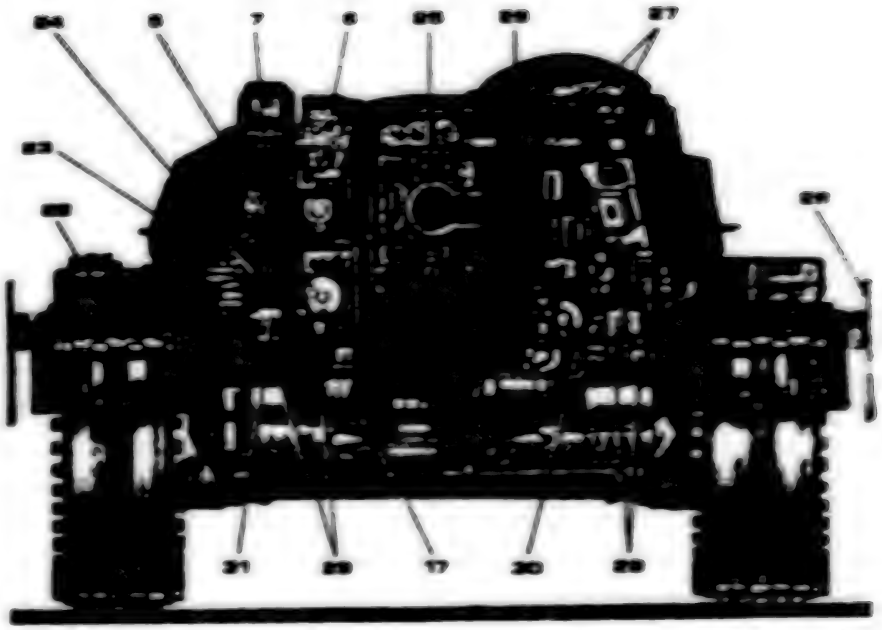
The tank's unit of fire includes a certain number of artillery rounds. The ammunition is kept in stowage, in special wells which are located inside the body. A part of the artillery rounds is armor-piercing composite shot and the other part is HE fragmentation. There are also hollow-charge rounds.

In describing the tank, one must not overlook the vision and sighting devices. Using them, the crew from inside the combat vehicle can reconnoiter the terrain, detect targets and hit them with artillery and machinegun fire. Observation and firing can be carried out from the tank at any time of the day. This is an extremely important quality of the tank. From the experience of the Great Patriotic War, it is known that nighttime combat operations were extremely difficult for tanks. A modern tank can move and fire at night as effectively as during the day.

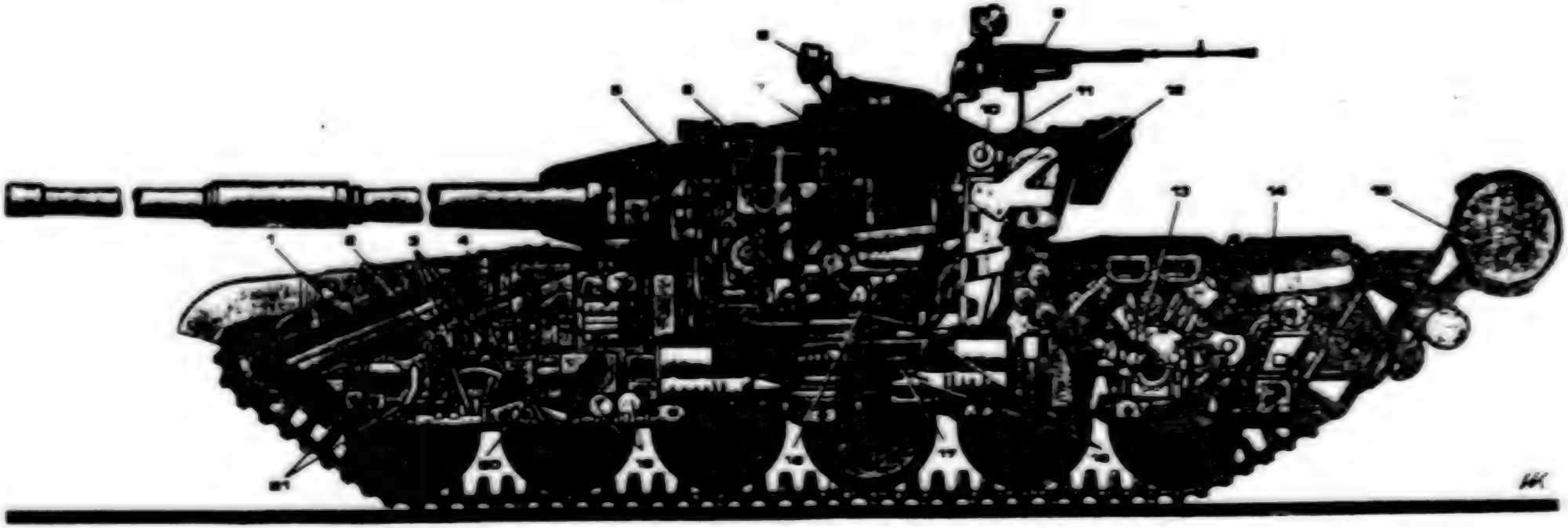
Now about the armor which makes the tank invulnerable in combat. Invulnerability is achieved by many factors: by the speed and maneuvering capabilities of the tank, by its overall dimensions; by the shape of the hull and turret, by the armament, and finally by the training level of the crew. But certainly the reliability of the armor is the most important of them.

The T-72 tank uses shell-proof armor. This means that the armor is capable of resisting an artillery shell and deflecting or absorbing the enormous energy which occurs in a hit. For example, the force developed when the armor is struck by a 76-mm shell is 800,000 horsepower. The armor also protects the crew against exposure to light radiation, penetrating radiation, the shock wave of a nuclear explosion as well as toxic and radioactive substances.

The T-72 weighs 41 tons, but regardless of this the tank possesses good maneuverability. But just what does good or bad maneuverability mean? The term "maneuverability" includes mobility, turnability and cross-country capability.



For key, see previous page



By mobility one means the ability of the tank to cover significant distances in a short period of time. The basic indicators of tank mobility are the average speed and range. The T-72 is capable of traveling over a dirt road at an average speed of 35-45 km/hr, and over a highway up to 50 km/hr. Maximum highway speed is 60 km/hr. As for the range, the importance of this indicator is hard to overestimate. This, if it can be so said, is the tank's range of action. For the T-72, this is a significant amount, up to 480 km.

Another component of maneuverability--turnability--makes it possible for the tank to quickly change direction, to be, as is sometimes said, a top. This is very important under the conditions of modern combat which is full of diverse weapons, and particularly during operations in mountains and population points.

In this sense a tank has significant advantages over a wheeled vehicle. It can turn literally on a dime.

Finally a word about cross-country capability. One hardly need say how important this is if the tank must travel through a deep snow cover, plowed land, loose sand and across swamps or cross obstacles. In this instance, of equal importance are engine power, the ground pressure of the tracks and the clearance.

The engine power of the T-72 is 780 horsepower and for a medium tank this is a very good indicator. Regardless of the impressive weight of the tank, the ground pressure of the tracks is comparatively low, some 0.83 kg/cm^2 which is comparable with the ground pressure of a human. The secret is that the tracks of the T-72 are wide (580 mm) and, consequently, their area is rather great. The ground clearance is 470 mm. This is a good indicator if one considers that the tank must often operate off the roads.

In possessing such qualities, the T-72 tank is capable of crossing the most difficult natural and man-made obstacles. For example, what about a river? It cannot be skirted. Of course, it is possible to use ferries and crossings. The ideal is a bridge which could support the heavy weight. Rafts can also be used for crossing the tanks. But what happens if there are no ferries and there is not time to wait for a bridge to be built? Then the tanks must ford to the other side.

Modern tanks can "travel" securely under water. They have equipment for the underwater driving of tanks (OPVT). This ensures dependable airtightness of the tank and a normal supply of air for the crew and engine. The OPVT set helps maintain the set course under water and provides an opportunity to take the necessary measures to guarantee the safety of the crew members. The width of the water barrier which can be crossed is hundreds of meters while the depth should not exceed 5 meters.

The T-72 has special equipment for digging pits and shelters and a mine-clearing tank attachment can be mounted to making passages through minefields.

The tank formations and units equipped with modern tanks are capable of conducting active offensive operations during the day and at night, a significant distance away from their own troops, to defeat an enemy grouping in a meeting engagement and to cross extensive zones of radioactive contamination and water barriers without a halt. They can also quickly create a strong defense and successfully resist an enemy drive.

COPYRIGHT: "Znamenosets", 1981
10272
CSO: 1801/253

AIR DEFENSE FORCES

RADAR TRAINING DISCUSSED

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 6, Mar 81 (signed to press 26 Feb 81) pp 32-33

[Article by Pfc A. Kalinin, 1st-Class Operator: "Hot Screen"]

[Text] It is semidarkness in the radar station. The vans hum as usual and varicolored bulb eylets wink as if warning: be vigilant! Well, the reminder is not superfluous. For us, the operators, vigilance is the primary matter.

I look attentively at the enigmatically green screen over which the silvery beam of the sweep is "winding" rings. These are our electronic eyes which are scanning the sky for dozens of kilometers around us. Not one object evades the vigilant eye of the wonderful equipment.

The luminous thread on the screen came across a bright point and, after several seconds, a scattering. But this is not the aerial "enemy;" rather it is our old acquaintances--"local objects," as the operators call them. The signs of local objects are well known to each specialist; it is difficult to mislead us.

And here are real targets--three at once. They were illuminated for only several seconds but this is sufficient to determine their nature, azimuth, altitude, and range. I read the data quickly, s mehow mechanically, as if I was engaged in this matter all my life.

No, this ability did not come by the wave of a wand. How many drills and lessons in a special classroom were necessary before they entrusted me with a battle station at the screen! And how many doubts did I have in myself!

My acquaintance with the combat equipment is recalled. The radar, filled to the limit with the most complex equipment and an abundance of various toggle switches, levers, and instruments, literally stunned me. I could not believe that namely I (frankly speaking, in school I did not do well in physics) will some day be able to work on it.

My confusion did not slip by Lieutenant S. Gusev.

"Bolder, Kalinin! It is not as difficult to do as it appears," he encouraged me.

I tried, but the training came with difficulty all the same. My commanders, Captain A. Andreyev, Lieutenant S. Gusev, and Junior Sergeant P. Baykov, helped me to acquire self-confidence and to learn the specialty of radar operator down to its fine points. They spared neither efforts nor time so that I could become a first-class operator.

...The day when I participated in a drill for the first time will remain in my memory forever. Of course, I was nervous. I wanted to cope with the mission as well as possible and to justify the confidence of my commanders and fellow-servicemen. And here, I felt completely the heavy load of responsibility.

I looked at the screen tensely, expecting a swarm of targets in each square centimeter of it. But nothing except "local objects" appeared on the scope. When the target finally flashed, I was unable to determine its coordinates at once because of surprise. It was necessary to wait until the beam of the scope picked it up the second time around. This could cost dearly in a combat situation.

Junior Sergeant Petr Baykov was next to me.

"More attentively, Anatoliy, more calmly," the section chief said to me.

The next time around, I gave all coordinates without errors and felt more confident. The target began to maneuver in azimuth and altitude, but I held it firmly. The "enemy" jammed, but this did not help him.

After the drill my fellow-servicemen congratulated me on my successful work and squeezed my hand firmly, in a manly manner. In my heart, it was a real celebration.

Later, I had to work independently many times, and each time I was convinced that the outcome of the duel with the aerial enemy greatly depends on the radar operator and his ability.

...It was a high-altitude target. But it descended gradually. As usual, I read the data to the plotter who quickly plotted out its route. The airplane soon dropped suddenly, toward the ground and, blending in with the "local objects," suddenly disappeared.

I looked at the screen fixedly but there was no familiar object. Only "local objects."

"I do not see the target," I reported over the intercom.

The enemy reappeared after a time. I immediately determined from the characteristic signs that it was the same target. An experienced operator never makes a mistake. But the target was tracked with a "failure," as we say, and this is inexcusable. But, as it turned out, it was not my fault. The "enemy" was experienced, hugged the ground, went behind cover, and the station proved to be blind. The next time, the "enemy" was unable to accomplish such a maneuver. As the operators say, the station sees everything!

The radar is wonderful equipment. The operator controls it. It is the nucleus, the core of the entire collective of specialists who are guarding the aerial boundaries

of our motherland. A high responsibility lays on them. The specialty of operator is also difficult in that it requires of the men deep knowledge of radio equipment, speed of reaction, and a high level of attention. A well trained operator can follow more than ten targets at once and determine not only their nature, range, altitude, and azimuth, but also the types of aircraft.

Junior Sergeant Petr Baykov possessed all these qualities in full measure. It was he who instilled in me a love for our specialty which disciplines and increases a sense of responsibility. For even the slightest inaccuracy in work may lead to serious consequences.

Petr Baykov was released but, like a baton, he passed on his love for the specialty to the young soldiers who are continuing the cause of their older comrades in a worthy manner.

When the aerial situation becomes complicated, in the sky are dozens of targets which maneuver in azimuth and altitude, and the beam of the scope comes across them each second, lighting up a great number of bright spots. I experience great tens... each time. Some special spring is wound up in me which gives me strength in the duel with a well trained "enemy." Who will prevail? The scope is mottled from the great number of bright spots. One gets the impression that the screen is just about to flare up in a white flame from the load.... Dear to me at such moments is my combat specialty of radar operator to which I am indebted for many new qualities of character and which I would not change for any other.

COPYRIGHT: "Sovetskiy voin", 1981

6367
CSO: 1801/229

VIEWS OF U. S. POLICY IN PERSIAN GULF

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 7, Apr 81 (signed to press 13 Mar 81) pp 46-47

[Article by Yu. Sedov: "The Persian Gulf: Imperialism's Intrigues"]

[Text] The dangerous course of the United States to use military strength to attain expansionist intentions has complicated considerably the situation in the world in recent years. As the journal FOREIGN POLICY admits, "there exists in Washington a certain adherence to a dictator style in international diplomacy, a yearning for strong bludgeons, for peace in which American sheriffs reign supreme."

The present provocative actions of the United States in the region of the Persian Gulf, a willfully declared zone of "vitally important American interests" where, in the words of former President Carter, "the bases of the economic and political well-being are staking their all," also fits within the framework of such imperialist concepts. However, in reality it is not the vital interests of simple Americans, but the greedy appetites of big business and the aggressive intrigues of the militarists which are sending aircraft carriers to the Arabian shores.

The hegemonistic itch of the imperialists in the Persian Gulf is explained primarily by the fact that it is the richest oil-bearing region of the world which provides 60 percent of the capitalist world's requirement for liquid fuel. The Western monopolies held sway over the deposits of "black gold" of the Persian Gulf for long years. Their unlimited domination came to an end with the growth of the national-liberation movement. But certain circles of the United States and other NATO countries obviously do not want to part with the sources of fabulous profits obtained through the plundering of the national wealth of developing countries. Imperialism's hostility to socio-political changes in Southwest Asia and the fear of losing control over the oil extracted here also caused the declaration of the Persian Gulf as a zone of "vital United States interests" and the Pentagon's initiation of large-scale military preparations in it.

In striving to justify the growth of the imperialists' military-political activity in this region, the United States is advancing the hackneyed fantasies of the "Soviet military danger to the oil umbilical cord of the capitalist world" and is trying to justify its subversive activity by events in Afghanistan. However, there is no more truth in such cock-and-bull stories than in the fabulous stories of "A Thousand and One Nights." Their writers will find it useful to remember the American saying: "When you go into court, you must have clean hands."

Facts are a stubborn thing, and they show that the Pentagon's expansionist activity in this region began to be implemented many years ago and intensified recently. Thus, in August 1977, that is, long before the Afghan events, the decision was made to train a crack large unit to conduct military operations in the zone of the Persian Gulf. In February 1978, the United States, not wishing to tie its hands by whatever circumstances may occur, unilaterally interrupted Soviet-American talks on limiting military activity in the Indian Ocean. It should be noted that American ships have been patrolling in this ocean since 1972. The overthrow of the Shah's regime at the beginning of 1979 became the catalyst of militarist mischief. As long as Iran accomplished the police functions allotted to it by Washington, it was considered in the United States that there was no urgent necessity to build up its own armed forces here.

Immediately after the Iranian card fell from the American deck the "Rapid Deployment Force," intended primarily for the Persian Gulf, entered the practical stage of formation. Simultaneously, the number of American ships in the Arabian Sea began to increase feverishly. It was learned that the Pentagon was working up more than 4,000 detailed maps of the region and detailed plans for mining the Strait of Hormuz. Information on plans for converting the U. S. naval presence in this region onto a permanent basis, that is, on the formation of the 5th Fleet, was leaked to the press.

Further--and more. And thus by the beginning of 1980 the designated region of the Indian Ocean began to be taken over by B-52 strategic bombers with nuclear weapons on board. Tactical-air aircraft, including the latest F-15 fighter-bombers, began to appear more and more often. The newspaper NEW YORK TIMES revealed the Pentagon's plans to place ground forces in the area and to put together an aggressive regional bloc. In the middle of 1980, J. Carter's memorandum No. 51 which envisioned the employment of nuclear weapons in the Near East became known.

To cover its militaristic activity, beginning in 1979 along with the myth of a "Soviet military threat" Washington used the American-Iranian conflict, in particular the problem of the American hostages who had been accused of espionage and were seized in the U.S. embassy building in Teheran. In a statement of the Soviet MID [Ministry of Foreign Affairs] to the U.S. government of 29 January 1980, it says that "the campaign which is hostile to the Soviet Union around the question of the former [sic] American hostages is being whipped up in the United States namely in order to attempt to cover plans for consolidating the American military presence in the indicated region as a means for coarse pressure on the countries which are located there."

In order to establish complete control over the strategically important region of the Persian Gulf, by the beginning of 1981 the Pentagon assembled here, as reported by the journal NEWSWEEK, the biggest naval force in all of history consisting of more than 70 ships. The basis of its striking force consists of two carrier strike groups, each of which containing a multipurpose carrier (up to 100 airplanes and helicopters on board), two or three missile cruisers, three or four destroyers or frigates, and others. On board landing ships are 2,800 Marines. The number of nuclear weapons carriers reaches 60 units. All this is not simply "showing the flag," but emplacing the material base beneath an adventuristic policy which is directed toward the attainment of military superiority in this region and the creation of a mechanism for interference in the internal affairs of the states of Africa and

Southwest Asia. American military specialists have already calculated that the airplanes of carrier-based aviation which are on the carriers are capable of launching strikes against objectives located at a distance of up to 1,800 kilometers and can reach the territory of Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and other countries of the region. They are aimed against the southern regions of the Soviet Union.

The Pentagon received additional reasons to build up the American military presence in the region as a result of the obligations assumed by the United States to step forth as the guarantor in ensuring the Camp David "peace" in accordance with the Egypt-Israeli separate deal. Now Washington is brandishing the "legal bases" to justify the interventionist line being conducted here. It is expressed, in particular, in the use of military bases on the territory of Israel and Egypt and in supplying them with weapons for the accomplishment of gendarme functions.

The Pentagon is trying to involve its NATO allies and Japan in its adventures. The journal TIME reported on plans for the formation of an international naval flotilla. These plans are already being realized in general outlines. Thus, experiencing nostalgia for the era of imperial majesty, Great Britain sent its ships to the region of the Persian Gulf. Ships of France, the FRG, and Australia are also located here (the total number of naval ships of the Western states in the region at the beginning of 1981 exceeded 60 units).

The expansion of the American military presence in the zone of the Persian Gulf is considered by the strategists from the Pentagon to be only the first step on the path of "assimilating" the region. The "Rapid Deployment Force" whose primary mission, as expressed by its commander, General Kelly, consists of "preventing the developing countries from slipping through the American fingers," should play the role of "armored fist" and the main strike force in the area. According to a report in the journal FORTUNE, initially its composition will include the 82d Airborne (15,000 men) and the 101st Air Assault (17,900 men) Divisions which have experience in the conduct of the aggressive war in Vietnam, and other units and subunits. It is planned to bring the total strength of the most mobile component of these troops to 100,000-110,000 men.

In preparing for the conduct of punitive operations in the Near and Middle East, the Pentagon is conducting numerous exercises under conditions as close as possible to those of the countries of the region. Regular units and subunits of the "Rapid Deployment Force" are "playing war" in the deserts of the American states of Nevada, Virginia, Florida, and California with the participation of the latest F-15, A-10, and other aircraft. Beyond the borders of the United States, maneuvers of "invasion forces" took place in November 1980 in Egypt which has been transformed into a range for the preparation of the Pentagon's interventionist operations against the independent states of the Near and Middle East.

The American militarists are expanding the network of military bases in the region. According to a report in the newspaper NEW YORK TIMES, they are called upon to accomplish two primary missions: to lay the basis for a permanent American military presence and to provide support for the ground operations of the "invasion troops. As the journal (AFRIK-AZI) expressed it, the United States has enveloped the Persian Gulf with a loop of aggressive strong points which extend from the island of Diego Garcia through Oman, Israel, Egypt, Somalia, and Kenya.

In accordance with the American-Oman agreement concluded in April 1980, the United States received the right to use three military air bases and two naval bases on the territory of Oman. Such magnanimous generosity of the Sultan (Kabus) is explained by his striving to be supported more substantially by American bayonets. Even now, according to a report in the newspaper NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, the United States is using the base facilities of the sultanate actively to supply the ships which are beating the waters of the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf.

Kenya agreed to place at the disposal of the United States the port of Mombasa and a number of military installations in the northern part of the country. In Somalia the United States bargained for the right to use the naval base and airfield in Berbera 134 kilometers from the Ethiopian border and port facilities in Mogadiscio and the airport in the northern part of the country at the exit from the Red Sea. In exchange for this, the Somali regime is receiving American armaments. In encouraging the aggressive aspirations of Somalia's leaders in regard to Ethiopia, Washington, in accordance with the American expression, is counting on "thrusting its hands in all pockets"--obtaining bases and wrecking the process of revolutionary transformations in this region.

Israel expressed agreement to offer the naval base at Haifa and two air bases under construction in the Negev desert for the "Rapid Deployment Force" and to create warehouses for American heavy equipment.

On its part Egypt, not wanting to yield the hand to its partner in obliging Washington, placed at its disposal the base Cairo-West where, in the summer of 1980, the "test run" of a squadron of F-4 "Phantom" aircraft of the U.S. Air Force took place under local conditions for three months, and the base of (Kena) and the port of Ras-Banas on the coast of the Red Sea. Ras-Banas, which it is planned to adapt to base B-52 strategic bombers and ships of the U.S. Navy, will be able to service 18,000 American servicemen simultaneously.

In addition to supplies of heavy armament, at the bases listed it is planned to place "on-call contingents of troops" whose primary mission, according to a report by the Associated Press, is to maintain these installations in constant readiness for use by the "invasion troops."

All this military fuss acquired an especially ominous meaning in light of a statement at the end of 1980 by the commander of the combined NATO armed forces in Europe, General Rogers, in which he declared with cynical frankness that the region of the Near East-Persian Gulf-Indian Ocean is the "most probable region for the outbreak of a new world war." And his predecessor, A. Haig, before assuming the post of U.S. Secretary of State, admitted frankly that the United States must strengthen its military presence in the region of the Persian Gulf and be ready, if necessary, to undertake military operations to ensure deliveries of oil from this region.

As regards the Soviet Union, it contrasts with the imperialists' dangerous actions the peace-loving course directed toward preventing the explosion of the Near East powder keg. It is this very goal which is pursued by the proposals put forth by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev during his visit to India in December 1980, to the United States, Western Europe, China, Japan, and all interested states to come to an agreement on an entire number of mutual obligations to include not creating foreign

military bases in the region of the Persian Gulf and adjacent islands, not emplacing nuclear or any other weapons of mass destruction there, and not employing or threatening to employ force against the countries of the Persian Gulf. The call to ensure peace in this region was also sounded from the rostrum of the 26th CPSU Congress. "Instead of gathering newer and newer naval and air armadas, troops, and armaments there," declared Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in the Summary Report, "we propose removing the military threat here, concluding an international agreement. By joint efforts and with consideration of the legitimate interests of all parties, a situation of stability and calm can be created in this region. The sovereign rights of the region's states and the security of sea and other communications which connect it with the rest of the world can be guaranteed."

COPYRIGHT: "Sovetskiy voin", 1981

6367
CSO: 1801/230

VIEWS ON U.S. MILITARY TRAINING

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 8, Apr 81 (signed to press 27 Mar 81) pp 46-47

[Article by Sr Lt V. Zabrodin: "Poisoners"]

[Text] It is noon. American paratroopers are on the parade ground. The soldiers chant: "I want to be a saboteur, live in blood, rip out guts, jump with an assault, hang the Reds, shoot the Russians."

The formation scatters on command. The paratroopers go into the attack. Driving their bayonets into the dummies which are dressed in a Soviet model uniform, they hysterically yell "Kill." Today, this is the reality of the training centers of the U.S. Army where recruits go through the course of basic combined-arms training.

...Cruelty, sadism and misanthropy. Murder transformed into satisfaction which causes delight and enjoyment. Where do the soldiers and officers of the so-called "most democratic country in the world" get all this? Why does a kind of "murderer's syndrome" develop rather quickly in the American servicemen under peaceful conditions? Why do the overwhelming majority of them believe the fabrications of bourgeois propaganda about "Moscow's aggressiveness?

In order to answer these questions, let us make a unique excursion to the barracks and enlisted and officers' clubs of the U.S. Army.

So, here are the barracks. It is the time for rest. Many soldiers and even sergeants are reading newspapers and journals. They are primarily military in nature. But one can always see reactionary and pornographic publications in their hands. The progressive press is absent. Its distribution in the U.S. Armed Forces is categorically forbidden.

Let us take the reading rooms and libraries. Here too, there is not one work by progressive authors. To make up for it, it is obtrusively recommended to the soldiers and sergeants that they become familiar with the 97-volume history of the Ground Forces, the 12-volume history of the Navy, and the 7-volume history of the Air Force which are published in the United States. In this regard, this history is presented as a chain of continuous victories. It is recommended mandatorily that they read anti-Soviet hits and pamphlets of three series: "Democracy Versus Communism," "Know Your Communist Enemy," and "Duty - Honor-Country," which are published by the Pentagon, and various types of novels with a militaristic content which

publicize the combat might of the U.S. Armed Forces. By the way, according to the authors' intentions in many such works war is already under way against the USSR and "exploits" of American lads on Russian soil are described and, just as effectively, the defeats of the Soviet Army. The CIA is not forgotten, either. In saving America officials of the agency liquidate a "network of top secret and most dangerous Soviet agents."

And if they are bored with the books? The soldiers can spend time in the cinema or at the colored television set. During the evening, they see on the television dozens of acts of violence, the most recent erotic films, trite television shows, and versions of murder, robbery, and sadistic cruelty which chill the blood. In the movie hall short films with an anti-Soviet content are shown. Even in the children's animated cartoon, "Little Red Riding Hood," the wolf who ate the grandmother wears a service cap with the hammer and sickle. In short, everything is filled with anti-Sovietism.

American soldiers are persistently advised to study the booklet, "Russian. A Language Guide." which was published recently by the Pentagon and which has now been distributed throughout America. It is recommended that they study words and phrases which, in the opinion of the American command, will be required already with the first acquaintance with the Russians: "Stop," "Come here!" Further, the conversation assumes an extremely specific nature: "I will pay you!", "Where is the nearest lodging?", "Where is the railroad?", "Where is the superhighway?', "Draw a map!" "Accompany me there!" The same question is repeated periodically on the pages of the "Language Guide": "Where is the road to Moscow?"

In the phrase book, you will also find the translation of several, to put it mildly, heart-rending words: "I am wounded," "We are wounded," "I became lost," "Help!", "Give me a bandage!" However, there are very few of them. There are many more demands in the booklet: "I want soup!", "I want a bottle of wine!", "I want chocolate!", "I want grapes!", "I want a bed!", and so forth. The mass media and the propaganda media of the Pentagon are preparing the army of brigandage and aggression primarily against the USSR politically, psychologically, and morally.

Another direction of U.S. bourgeois propaganda is the attempt to substantiate the "Soviet threat." "Russian Tanks Are Moving!", "The Threat from the East is Growing!", "Can Russia Start a Nuclear War?"--the newspapers and journals of the United States, especially those of a military nature, glisten with just such provocative headlines. Television reports and radio broadcasts begin with these words quite often.

"On 5 February 1981 the United States was attacked by the enemy. In response, more than 400 bombers with nuclear bombs on board and fighters took off to strike the Russians."

Fantasy? No, this is how American newspapers and journals described the maneuvers "Global Shield-81." According to a report by the Associated Press, these maneuvers became the "biggest military air operation of the last 35 years," that is, since World War II.

The military sickness is extremely infectious in the United States. It is very dangerous in our nuclear age. Especially as the politicians and military strategists of the United States are infected with it.

In order to continue the arms race, justify the indefatigable appetites of the U.S. military-industrial complex (VPK), and come out against detente, the mass information media intimidate the Americans from day to day with the alleged "growing vulnerability of the United States" and the great inequality between the forces of NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

"Is America strong enough?" the American weekly NEWSWEEK recently asked from its cover. And naturally, it answered: "Not strong enough." In this regard, the journal declared in a sensational manner (of course, without referring to the source) that "during the last decade Moscow had expended more for military purposes than Washington." Of course, there is no proof. But methods for manufacturing such frauds were worked out in the United States long ago. Let us recall the extremely frank statement on this score by such an anti-Soviet person as the late J. F. Dulles: "In order to force the country to bear the burden with which the maintenance of powerful armed forces is connected, it is necessary to create an emotional atmosphere similar to a wartime psychological environment. It is necessary to create the impression of an external threat."

It is namely with this that the White House and Pentagon are now occupied as they are already planning to spend almost a trillion dollars for military purposes during the next five years.

Yes, Washington is not stingy with the resources allocated for aggressive military preparations, for "brain-washing" the taxpayers, and to condition the servicemen. The "newspaper empire" of the Pentagon alone today consists of more than 1,450 different newspapers, journals, and bulletins.

The central apparatus with the Pentagon which directly manages questions of the ideological and moral-psychological preparation of the personnel is the Armed Forces Information Directorate. The armed forces press service, radio and television service, and Department of Defense Information School are subordinate to it.

Of the Pentagon's "shock press," we can distinguish the mass journal SOLDIERS, the journal of the Ground Forces ARMY, the Air Forces' AIRMAN, the Marines' MARINE CORPS GAZETTE, and the journal MILITARY REVIEW. The most widespread newspapers are STARS AND STRIPES and the weekly newspapers of the Army, Air Force, and Navy ARMY TIMES, NAVY TIMES, and AIR FORCE TIMES. From day to day, these publications methodically and purposefully attune the American servicemen to see their main enemy in the Soviet Union and they consolidate in their consciousness the thought of an inevitable and quick war with the USSR.

The fascist newspaper (SHTURMOVIK) and the Ku Klux Klan publications--the newspaper WHITE POWER and the monthly journal FIERY CROSS are widely disseminated among the American troops which are located in the countries of Western Europe. The Pentagon and its army are also watched over by the notorious American Legion which contains war veterans with a militaristic attitude. The Legion publishes the monthly journal AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE. This organization also has its own [illegible]graph agency, publishing house, and motion picture studio.

The television centers and radio stations which the Pentagon has created are also first-rate poisoners in its propaganda machine. The Pentagon has at its disposal a radio and television network of 92 television and about 260 military propaganda radio stations. According to reports in the foreign press, three-fifths of the radio frequencies which belong to U.S. government institutions have been allotted to it.

The propagandizing of anticommunism, nationalism, militarism, racism, egoism, and vanity is not a new phenomenon for the mass information media. Hired servants of the military-industrial complex constantly use the most effective procedures for the psychological conditioning of mass public opinion. To what does this lead?

During the last 25 years, U.S. servicemen on the territory of Japan alone committed 150,000 various infringements of the law--murder, rape, robberies, assault and battery, and cases of smuggling and the sale of narcotics; in the United States itself, each year the total number of recorded servicemen's crimes comprises tens of thousands.

Under the influence of the mass information and propaganda media of the Pentagon, the majority of the soldiers and officers have actually formed a kind of "murderer's syndrome." Thus, in order to obtain a decoration, during the war in Vietnam American soldiers conducted personal "body counts." For the command, it was unimportant who these killed were--enemy soldiers or peaceful residents. Victims were counted by ears cut off. A U.S. serviceman who killed 400 people was awarded the "Bronze Star" medal, those who had 100 killed to their credit--the "Meritorious Service" medal, and those who killed 50 people received a decoration. The American soldier Robert Bauer testified in the press: "We had the luck to fight successfully in the area of Highway No. 20. The enemy left 115 dead on the battlefield. Bulldozers raked them into a heap but after about two or three hours the 919th Combat Engineer Battalion approached from the rear. I myself saw the soldiers rush to cut the ears off the corpses and split them with their bayonets." What soldiers. A "hero" of the war in Vietnam, Brigadier General G. Patton, declared proudly: "I greatly love to see arms and legs which have been torn off fly to the sides."

In America, such people have been permitted to bear arms. And not only conventional arms. Cases are known where 30 crew members were dropped from the nuclear submarines "Andrew Jackson" and "Thomas Jefferson" for the systematic use of narcotics. For the same reason, 36 men were removed from an Air Force missile base in Florida. According to data in the foreign press, in some American units based in Western Europe today up to 80 percent of the soldiers use narcotics. In the U.S. Navy, up to 16.5 percent of submarine crew members use marijuana. While the Pentagon fights narcotic addiction in the Army, some Washington officials declare sceptically: "Let the young boobies do what they want--they have a good time, use narcotics, dance rock-and roll, rape, kill, if only they do not become involved in politics because in the end it will prove to be Marxist politics."

Our readers know the public statements of U.S. President R. Reagan and Secretary of State A. Haig who intentionally committed distortions in evaluating the goals and nature of the USSR's international activity and made a number of "accusations" against it. In unleashing the next campaign which is hostile toward the Soviet Union, this time they attributed to it participation in "international terrorism."

This coarse, ill-intentioned deceit was exposed in a TASS statement. The Soviet Union was and remains the main enemy of the theory and practice of terrorism, including its use in international relations. This cannot be said of American society--a society of violence and terror.

Isn't it blasphemy, in accusing others of "international terrorism," meanwhile to send "Rapid Deployment Forces" to the zone of the Persian Gulf and to the shores of liberated countries, proclaiming lands thousands of miles from the United States a "zone of American interests?" Isn't it hypocrisy for the ruling circles of the United States to deliver under this screen military equipment to the junta of Salvador which is trying to sink in blood the striving of this country's people for freedom?!

The "theories" and "doctrines" which are produced in Washington and spread throughout the entire world, according to the thoughts of their authors, should grant American imperialism a free hand to suppress national-liberation movements in any corner of the world. Under the flag of struggle against "international terrorism" the United States wants to deal with the fighters for independence. But these attempts are doomed to failure: it is impossible to stop the forward, natural course of history and the striving of peoples for freedom and independence, peace and progress.

With the present adventuristic aggressive course of the American ruling circles, there is no need to be surprised at their fabrications. The Soviet people know well that the myth of the "Soviet threat" was invented in the United States already during the first days after the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Using them as a cover, the United States actively participated in the intervention against the young Republic of Soviets. Back in 1919 V. I. Lenin, in rebuking those who "shout about Red militarism," said that "these are political swindlers who pretend that they believe this stupidity and throw such accusations right and left, using for this purpose their lawyer's ability to make up false arguments and throw sand in the eyes of the masses."

Now, forgetting about the experience of history and training an army of aggression, the same thing is being done in Washington. It is being done by making active use of the mass information and propaganda media as the "sand" and placing under serious threat the peace and security of peoples and everything positive which has been attained in international life in the last decade.

COPYRIGHT: "Sovetskiy voin", 1981

6367
CSO: 1801/230

END

END OF FICHE

DATE FILMED

June 30, 1981